

Bexhill Museum

England & Wales · Charity number 1102638

Details

Other names	BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED, THE SOCIETY OF BEXHILL MUSEUMS LIMITED
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04959445
Registered	2004-03-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Museum Egerton Road Bexhill-on-Sea TN39 3HL
Phone	01424213026
Email	administration@bexhillmuseum.org.uk
Website	www.bexhillmuseum.org.uk

Activities

Objects: PROVIDING A MUSEUM IN ORDER TO PROMOTE MAINTAIN IMPROVE AND ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC FOR THEIR BENEFIT PARTICULARLY BY THE PRESENTATION OF EXHIBITIONS LECTURES AND OTHER MEANS OF STUDY RELATING TO THE DISPLAY OF LOCAL HISTORY NATURAL HISTORY ARCHAEOLOGY THE HISTORY OF COSTUME TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING THE ARTS ETHNOGRAPHY GEOLOGY AND SOCIAL HISTORY.

Activities: The object of the charity is to provide a museum in order to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public for their benefit particularly by the presentation of exhibitions, lectures and other means of study relating to local history, natural history, archaeology, history of costume, technology, engineering, the arts, ethnography, geology and social history.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED. IN PRACTICE BEXHILL ON SEA
- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£321,752	£167,320	-	-
2024-03-31	£110,658	£119,519	-	-
2023-03-31	£126,539	£122,443	-	-
2022-03-31	£136,751	£140,301	-	-
2021-03-31	£123,709	£108,761	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Catherine Julia Hirst		2023-12-06
Dan Scales		2022-12-07
Dr Anne Geraldine Stacey		2018-10-03
Dr Martin Bell		2022-12-07
Gordon Roy Smith		2019-10-09
Jason Bradley Trainor		2023-12-06
Kim Jayne Byford		2023-12-06
Sally Hemmings		2019-10-09

Bexhill Museum

England & Wales - Charity number 1102638

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04959445 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1102638

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
FOR
BEXHILL MUSEUM
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

BEXHILL MUSEUM

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

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BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The stated objectives of the charity are to provide a museum in order to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public for their benefit, particularly by the presentation of exhibitions, lectures and other means of study relating to the display of local history, archaeology, history of costume, technology and engineering, the arts, ethnography, geology and social history.

Public benefit

The Trustees have confirmed that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in their opinion the foregoing report on the achievements and performance demonstrates that they have complied therewith.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Bexhill Museum continued to deliver its core mission: preserving, interpreting, and sharing its collections with the public. In 2024-25, this included a broad programme of exhibitions, education, and collections care, while laying the groundwork for major capital works in 2025-26.

Key policy and documentation updates required for Arts Council England re-accreditation were completed, including a new emergency plan, revised conservation policies, and combined documentation procedures. A review of access, keyholding, and lone working led to improved security, and new digital sensors enhanced environmental monitoring in the Sargent Gallery.

More than 1,600 pupils from 23 local schools visited in 2024-25. The museum launched new sessions on Pirates, the Arctic and Law & Order and partnered with Bexhill College to explore opportunities for 16-18-year-olds. Holiday activities remained popular, especially dinosaur-themed sessions..

Engagement with community groups, wellbeing initiatives, and local arts and heritage organisations expanded. Volunteer training included Mental Health First Aid and a safeguarding review. Evening visits by local Scouts and Guides were especially successful, and the museum welcomed over 700 visitors in one evening during the January 2024 Bexhill After Dark festival.

A highlight of the year was the restoration of Bexhill's 1895 Merryweather horse-drawn fire engine. Funded by public donations and a local firefighter-led campaign, the restored engine was presented at a special event by East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, complete with two shire horses and attendance from past and present firefighters.

A lively programme of temporary exhibitions complemented permanent displays, including Blazing Saddles, on pioneering women cyclists, Hats, Hats, Hats and a waistcoat-themed weekend with costume expert J. François-Campbell

New or refreshed displays focused on the Bexhill fire service, Victorian cycling, and the town's historic streetscape. The museum's painting of Hoad's Mill by L.S. Lowry will be loaned to the Towner Gallery in 2025.

The museum was again supported by a committed team of volunteers, who contributed to operations, outreach, fundraising, maintenance, and collections work. Volunteer-led fundraising activities raised £10,620. Highlights included a quiz night, open garden, fashion show, Tai Chi classes, summer lectures, talks at St Augustine's Church, guided walks, and stalls at local events. The volunteer-run museum shop increased its annual takings to £16,620.

Volunteer-earned income remains essential to financial sustainability, especially with the likely end of Rother District Council's service agreement in 2026-27 and uncertainty around future local government funding.

Volunteers also supported curatorial work, helping restore the Merryweather engine, relocate collections, and manage special events, including a naturalist evening tour managed with professionalism and humour. Specialists assisted with the cleaning, accessioning, and pest-control of historic costumes and textiles, including donations from Pevensey Town Trust.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The museum made major strides in strategic fundraising during 2024-25. Core unrestricted income-admissions, shop takings-covered daily operations, while external grant funding became increasingly vital for capital and development work.

The major achievement was securing a £390,389 grant from DCMS via Arts Council England's MEND (Museum Estate & Development Fund), alongside £113,000 from East Sussex County Council. Together, these funds will support critical infrastructure work in 2025-26: flood-proofing, structural repairs, improved storage, and better environmental conditions for the collection. A total of £197,330 was received in the year.

Early progress was made preparing for the works. The lower ground floor store was cleared for these works, with objects moved to temporary storage in Bexhill and Pevensey. This also enabled valuable redocumentation work: reviewing artefacts long in storage, checking condition, and repacking. Trustees began establishing a framework for ethical disposal of items that are duplicated, un-accessioned, damaged, or outside the museum's collecting remit.

The MEND award also allowed the museum to plan for future developments, including a potential new archaeological store and education space by converting disused public toilets in Egerton Park. Beyond capital investment, the museum strengthened ties with local and regional funders. It deepened its partnership with the De La Warr Pavilion under its Transforming Heritage programme, co-leading a new initiative to locate the Pavilion's cultural and architectural archives across Sussex and around the world.

Looking forward, Bexhill Museum is shifting from reactive grant-seeking to a strategic, integrated fundraising approach. Future bids will align with board-approved objectives: operational sustainability, dynamic collections, and inclusive public engagement. The Development & Finance Sub-Committee will guide this transition, prioritising high-value national bids, strategic match funding, and coordination with local cultural investment strategies.

Reserves policy

The unrestricted General Fund, representing funds available for the day-to-day operation of the Museum, at the end of March 2025 stood at £28,266. The balance of restricted funds at the end of the year, monies restricted for specific donor funded activities, was £225,702.

We treat total unrestricted income over the year, which came to £112,898 in 2024-25, as our working turnover figure. We then ensure that no less than ten percent of this is held as a minimum reserve within the General Fund balance in the unlikely event of an enforced closure.

In that event the collection would have to be relocated or ethically disposed of, and liabilities such as legal fees or redundancies covered - though in almost every reasonable circumstance the museum would be able claim insurance to cover such expenses.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Company's governing documents are its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 October 2003 and amended by written resolution dated 10 February 2004 and special resolutions dated 3 October 2012 and 20 October 2021. Copies of these documents are available by request. The company is limited by guarantee.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The power of appointing new or additional Trustees is vested in the Trustees. Prior to appointment, new Trustees would be introduced to the workings of the charity, given a role description and advised of their responsibilities.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

The Management Team is appointed by the Trustees and meet weekly to review activities and manage the museum on a day-to-day basis. The group is made up of the volunteer coordinator, Gordon Smith, the Business Support Officer, Rohan Jayasekera, a representative of the Collections Care team, Stella Hales-Morris, and the Curator Julian Porter.

There is currently only one formal staff employee of the Museum, housekeeper Toni Neville, employed part-time for housekeeping duties. Rother District Curator Julian Porter MA is seconded by Rother District Council as Curator to Bexhill Museum. Rohan Jayasekera MSc MA is contracted by the Museum month-by-month on a part-time freelance basis as Business Support Officer.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed and identified the risks to which the charity is exposed and have ensured that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees have updated the existing Child Protection Policy to take account of changes in practice regarding the Safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04959445 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1102638

Registered office

Bexhill Museum
Egerton Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN39 3HL

Trustees

Dr A G Stacey
Mrs G D Bradley
P A Goodberry
Mrs S A Hemmings
G R Smith
Dr M G Bell
D Scales
Ms C J Hirst
J B Trainor
Ms K J Byford

Patron

Suzy Izzard

Honorary President

Presently vacant: Mr D J Betts passed away in 2024.

Neither the Patron nor Honorary President is an officer of the charity.

Company Secretary

R A Jayasekera

BEXHILL MUSEUM

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

David Ashby FCCA ACA
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

Accountants

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1HE.

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, Devonshire Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1AG.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13th August 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs S A Hemmings - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEXHILL MUSEUM

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bexhill Museum ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

David Ashby FCCA ACA

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

17th August 2025

BEXHILL MUSEUM**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	<i>2024 Total funds £</i>
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	30,866	207,852	238,718	35,720
Charitable activities					
Admission fees		35,256	-	35,256	37,153
Education room hire and training		9,995	-	9,995	6,677
Royalties from publications		56	-	56	136
Other trading activities	3	27,773	1,002	28,775	28,464
Investment income	4	264	-	264	282
Other income	5	8,688	-	8,688	2,226
Total		112,898	208,854	321,752	110,658
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	12,520	-	12,520	15,069
Charitable activities	7				
Projects		11,194	23,441	34,635	20,872
Museum expenditure		86,841	6,108	92,949	62,926
Finance and administration services		23,841	3,375	27,216	20,652
Total		134,396	32,924	167,320	119,519
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(21,498)	175,930	154,432	<i>(8,861)</i>
Transfers between funds	20	23,381	(23,381)	-	-
Net movement in funds		1,883	152,549	154,432	<i>(8,861)</i>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		140,588	73,154	213,742	222,603
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		142,471	225,703	368,174	213,742

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BEXHILL MUSEUM**BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	<i>2024 Total funds £</i>
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	82,275	-	82,275	75,618
Heritage assets	15	27,539	43,569	71,108	68,943
Investments	16	2	-	2	2
		109,816	43,569	153,385	144,563
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	17	6,023	-	6,023	4,110
Debtors	18	9,398	-	9,398	7,986
Cash at bank and in hand		24,473	182,133	206,606	60,026
		39,894	182,133	222,027	72,122
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	19	(7,238)	-	(7,238)	(2,943)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		32,656	182,133	214,789	69,179
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		142,472	225,702	368,174	213,742
NET ASSETS					
		142,472	225,702	368,174	213,742
FUNDS					
	20			142,471	140,588
Unrestricted funds				225,703	73,154
Restricted funds					
TOTAL FUNDS					
				368,174	213,742

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31ST MARCH 2025

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13th August 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

S A Hemmings - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemption in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Improvements to Museum building	- 2.5% on cost
Display cases and shelving	- 5% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% on cost
Interactive displays	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Heritage assets

Acquisitions for the collection since 1st April 2010, whether donated or purchased, are capitalised and recognised in the balance sheet at the cost or value of the acquisition, where such cost or valuation is reasonably obtainable and reliable. Items donated or bequeathed to the Museum's collection are valued by internal valuers if an external valuation for the items is not available. Such items are not depreciated or revalued.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Donations	5,124	<i>5,428</i>
Tax recoverable on gift aid	808	<i>853</i>
Legacy	-	<i>500</i>
Grants	224,991	<i>18,980</i>
Subscriptions	5,630	<i>7,885</i>
Donations to museum collection	2,165	<i>2,074</i>
	<u>238,718</u>	<i><u>35,720</u></i>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Rother District Council - Development Project	3,375	<i>-</i>
Rother District Council - Service level agreement	8,500	<i>8,500</i>
Rother District Council - Net Zero	4,978	<i>-</i>
Rother District Council - MEND	2,135	<i>-</i>
Arts Council: Hastings and Bexhill Museums and Schools Project (via Hastings Council)	7,480	<i>7,480</i>
Bexhill Town Council	-	<i>3,000</i>
Arts Council: MEND	195,195	<i>-</i>
Nineveh Trust	2,500	<i>-</i>
Bexhill 100	276	<i>-</i>
The Relais Cooden Beach	276	<i>-</i>
Hazell Industries Ltd	276	<i>-</i>
	<u>224,991</u>	<i><u>18,980</u></i>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Shop and cafe income	16,715	<i>15,225</i>
Fund raising income	10,790	<i>12,727</i>
Sale of clothing	193	<i>437</i>
Other income	1,077	<i>75</i>
	<u>28,775</u>	<i><u>28,464</u></i>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

4. INVESTMENT INCOME		2025	2024
		£	£
Interest on cash investments		<u>264</u>	<u>282</u>
5. OTHER INCOME		2025	2024
		£	£
Expenditure recharges to Rother District Council		<u>8,688</u>	<u>2,226</u>
6. RAISING FUNDS			
Other trading activities		2025	2024
		£	£
Opening stock		4,110	4,893
Purchases		11,798	10,909
Closing stock		(6,023)	(4,110)
Fund raising, publicity and other costs		2,635	3,377
		<u>12,520</u>	<u>15,069</u>
7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS			
	Direct	Support	Totals
	Costs (see	costs (see	
	note 8)	note 9)	
	£	£	£
Projects	34,635	-	34,635
Museum expenditure	89,961	2,988	92,949
Finance and administration services	-	27,216	27,216
	<u>124,596</u>	<u>30,204</u>	<u>154,800</u>
8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2025	2024
		£	£
Conservation		3,301	1,882
Collections, exhibitions and special projects		30,277	5,010
Computer & IT costs		5,038	3,172
Education & lecture costs		4,506	5,401
Subscriptions and conferences		2,163	1,738
Repairs and renewals		10,427	1,837
Advertising & promotion (inc newsletter and website)		6,205	8,226
General rates, water rates, gas, electricity & telephone		29,642	14,868
Cleaner's salary and cleaning consumables		6,837	7,754
Insurance		3,307	3,049
Printing, postage and stationery		1,365	1,596
Volunteer expenses		115	155
Payroll processing fees		396	384
Security and fire protection		4,168	4,356
Sundry expenses		43	203
Travel		40	507
Professional fees		1,741	3,373
Carried forward		<u>109,571</u>	<u>63,511</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Brought forward	109,571	<i>63,511</i>
Displays, signage etc	102	<i>13</i>
Bank charges	510	<i>480</i>
Card fees	627	<i>708</i>
Depreciation	13,786	<i>13,272</i>
	<u>124,596</u>	<i><u>77,984</u></i>

Conservation refers "to the activities and costs involved in preserving, stabilising, and protecting the museum's collections as a whole, whether they are on display or in storage". Collections (or more accurately Collection Management) refers to "activities involved in organising, documenting, storing, and accessing the collection as a whole and to ensure effective control, use, and accountability of the collection as a whole". Both are charitable activities and a revenue cost.

Exhibitions and special projects are discrete activities, and a mix of restricted, designated and undesignated expenditure. This year they include the Iguanodon project, railway projects, Merryweather, etc. As temporary fixtures, they may be eligible for Museums & Galleries Exhibition Tax Relief (MGTR).

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance	Totals
	£	costs £	£
Museum expenditure	-	2,988	2,988
Finance and administration services	27,216	-	27,216
	<u>27,216</u>	<u>2,988</u>	<u>30,204</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Management

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Finance and administration services	27,216	<i>20,652</i>
Sub contract administrative services	<u>27,216</u>	<i><u>20,652</u></i>

Governance costs

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Museum expenditure	2,508	<i>1,704</i>
Accountancy fees	480	<i>456</i>
Independent examiner's fees	-	<i>3,654</i>
Legal fees	<u>2,988</u>	<i><u>5,814</u></i>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>13,786</u>	<u>13,272</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

12. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	5,460	5,460
Social security costs	0	0
Pensions	0	0
	<u>5,460</u>	<u>5,460</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Cleaner	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	23,656	12,064	35,720
Charitable activities			
Admission fees	37,153	-	37,153
Education room hire and training	6,677	-	6,677
Royalties from publications	136	-	136
Other trading activities	25,549	2,915	28,464
Investment income	282	-	282
Other income	2,226	-	2,226
Total	<u>95,679</u>	<u>14,979</u>	<u>110,658</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	15,069	-	15,069

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Projects	3,328	17,544	20,872
Museum expenditure	62,926	-	62,926
Finance and administration services	20,652	-	20,652
Total	<u>101,975</u>	<u>17,544</u>	<u>119,519</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(6,296)	(2,565)	(8,861)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	146,884	75,719	222,603
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>140,588</u>	<u>73,154</u>	<u>213,742</u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements to Museum building £	Display cases and shelving £	Fixtures and fittings £
COST			
At 1st April 2024	-	137,461	112,793
Additions	20,443	-	-
At 31st March 2025	<u>20,443</u>	<u>137,461</u>	<u>112,793</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2024	-	106,721	69,279
Charge for year	514	6,872	5,636
At 31st March 2025	<u>514</u>	<u>113,593</u>	<u>74,915</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2025	<u>19,929</u>	<u>23,868</u>	<u>37,878</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>30,740</u>	<u>43,514</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - continued

	Interactive displays £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st April 2024	67,717	46,229	364,200
Additions	-	-	20,443
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31st March 2025	67,717	46,229	384,643
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st April 2024	67,717	44,865	288,582
Charge for year	-	764	13,786
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31st March 2025	67,717	45,629	302,368
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st March 2025	-	600	82,275
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31st March 2024	-	1,364	75,618
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

15. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2024	68,943
Additions - donated	2,165
	<hr/>
At 31st March 2025	71,108
	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2025	71,108
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31st March 2024	68,943
	<hr/> <hr/>

As set out in note 1, the balance shown here only reflects the acquisitions for the collection since 1 April 2010. The valuation of the donated items are carried out by the Museum's Curator.

Five year financial summary of heritage asset transactions

	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Purchases	0	0	200	0	0
Donations	2,165	2,074	1,048	25,662	891
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total additions	2,165	2,074	1,248	25,662	891
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Disposal	0	0	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

16. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025	<u>2</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2025	<u><u>2</u></u>
At 31st March 2024	<u><u>2</u></u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited

Registered office: Bexhill Museum, Egerton Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3HL

Nature of business: Dormant company

	%		31/3/25	31/3/24
Class of share:	holding		£	£
Ordinary	100			
Aggregate capital and reserves			2	2

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Bexhill Museums Trading Limited. Its capital consists of 2 £1 shares both of which have been issued at par.

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited ceased trading on 31 March 2019 and is currently dormant.

17. STOCKS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Stocks	<u>6,023</u>	<u>4,110</u>

18. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grant receivable	2,135	-
Other debtors	<u>7,263</u>	<u>7,986</u>
	<u>9,398</u>	<u>7,986</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

19. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Amounts owed to group undertakings	2	<i>2</i>
Other creditors	7,236	<i>2,941</i>
	<u>7,238</u>	<i><u>2,943</u></i>

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/24	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31/3/25
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	35,038	(4,409)	(2,363)	28,266
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	75,618	(13,787)	20,444	82,275
Collection acquisitions designated fund	25,374	2,165	-	27,539
Museums pledge towards improvements	-	(5,065)	5,300	235
Elva repairs designated fund	100	-	-	100
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	4,057	-	-	4,057
Costumes designated fund	401	(401)	-	-
	<u>140,588</u>	<u>(21,497)</u>	<u>23,381</u>	<u>142,472</u>
Restricted funds				
Collection acquisitions fund	43,569	-	-	43,569
Capital works project	12,089	(12,089)	-	-
Izzard family train set	4,471	(636)	-	3,835
Piano	654	(70)	-	584
Museum and schools	5,072	-	(5,072)	-
Merryweather fund	7,299	(7,299)	-	-
Arts Council MEND grant fund	-	195,195	(18,309)	176,886
Motor Heritage Trail signs	-	828	-	828
	<u>73,154</u>	<u>175,929</u>	<u>(23,381)</u>	<u>225,702</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>213,742</u>	<u>154,432</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>368,174</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**
20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	110,233	(114,642)	(4,409)
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	(1)	(13,786)	(13,787)
Collection acquisitions designated fund	2,165	-	2,165
Museums pledge towards improvements	-	(5,065)	(5,065)
Costumes designated fund	501	(902)	(401)
	112,898	(134,395)	(21,497)
Restricted funds			
Capital works project	3,374	(15,463)	(12,089)
Izzard family train set	39	(675)	(636)
Piano	-	(70)	(70)
Merryweather fund	1,940	(9,239)	(7,299)
Arts Council MEND grant fund	195,195	-	195,195
Development in innovation infrastructure for Net Zero	4,978	(4,978)	-
Motor Heritage Trail signs	828	-	828
Iguanodon Project	2,500	(2,500)	-
	208,854	(32,925)	175,929
TOTAL FUNDS	321,752	(167,320)	154,432

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	31,625	5,213	(1,800)	35,038
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	87,090	(13,272)	1,800	75,618
Collection acquisitions designated fund	23,500	1,874	-	25,374
Elva repairs designated fund	100	-	-	100
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	4,057	-	-	4,057
Costumes designated fund	512	(111)	-	401
	<u>146,884</u>	<u>(6,296)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>140,588</u>
Restricted funds				
Collection acquisitions fund	43,369	200	-	43,569
Local research	281	(281)	-	-
Capital works project	20,723	(8,634)	-	12,089
Museum in a box	168	(168)	-	-
Izzard family train set	6,966	(2,495)	-	4,471
Piano	654	-	-	654
Museum and schools	2,783	2,289	-	5,072
InSight to Culture	775	(775)	-	-
Merryweather fund	-	7,299	-	7,299
	<u>75,719</u>	<u>(2,565)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,154</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>222,603</u></u>	<u><u>(8,861)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>213,742</u></u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	93,786	(88,573)	5,213
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	-	(13,272)	(13,272)
Collection acquisitions designated fund	1,874	-	1,874
Costumes designated fund	19	(130)	(111)
	<u>95,679</u>	<u>(101,975)</u>	<u>(6,296)</u>
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	200	-	200
Local research	-	(281)	(281)
Capital works project	-	(8,634)	(8,634)
Museum in a box	-	(168)	(168)
Izzard family train set	-	(2,495)	(2,495)
Museum and schools	7,480	(5,191)	2,289
InSight to Culture	-	(775)	(775)
Merryweather fund	7,299	-	7,299
	<u>14,979</u>	<u>(17,544)</u>	<u>(2,565)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>110,658</u></u>	<u><u>(119,519)</u></u>	<u><u>(8,861)</u></u>

Designated funds

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the value of the fixed assets held by the charity.

The Collection acquisitions designated fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010, for items which the trustees have the power to dispose of at their discretion. During the year over 50 items were donated to the museum.

The Elva repairs fund is money designated for repairs to the Elva car.

Bexhill's lost world development project fund is monies designated from the receipt of a legacy in 2016 towards an extension to the museum.

The Costumes fund is made up of a donation of £2,000 which was designated towards the costs relating to the costumes held by the museum. This fund has now been fully expended.

The Museum pledged £5,300 towards the cost of the improvements to the museum.

Restricted funds

The Collection acquisitions restricted fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010. During the year over 100 items were donated to the museum.

A major project for the stripping out and refitting of the semi-derelict basement stores and other urgent works was confirmed at the year's end. Funds received for this purpose in previous years were held in a Capital Project fund during the current year and will be transferred to a new dedicated fund with its own bank account in 2024-25.

The Izzard family train set fund is monies received towards the upkeep, improvement and changes to the layout of the model train set display.

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

The piano fund is made up of donations for the ongoing costs of maintaining the piano.

The Merryweather fund is grants and donations received towards the restoration costs of Bexhill's 1895 Merryweather horse-drawn, steam powered fire engine which will be permanently displayed at the museum once restoration is complete. This fund was fully expended at by the year end.

The Museum and schools fund balance as been transferred to the general fund as the grants are treated as service agreement grants so are not restricted and the trustees have agreed it is acceptable to treat the balance of unspent monies brought forward as unrestricted funds.

A major project for the stripping out and refitting of the semi-derelict basement stores and other urgent works was confirmed on 8 March 2024 following the award of a £390,389 (£195,195 received in 2024/25) grant from the Arts Council & DCMS operated Museum Estate and Development Fund (MEND). Funds received for this project in previous years were held in a Capital Project fund. The remainder has been transferred to a new dedicated MEND Project fund, with its own bank account, in 2024-25.

Transfers between funds

Assets have been purchased using unrestricted funds and restricted funds so transfers have been made from the relevant fund to the Tangible fixed assets designated fund for the cost of these assets. Any restrictions cease once an asset is purchased.

The balance in the Museums and Schools fund at 1 April 2024 has been transferred to the general fund. The funding which is received is not restricted as it is a service contact between the Museum and Hastings Borough Council and is funded by the Department of Education and managed by the Arts Council England.

The museum has pledged £5,300 towards the costs of the improvements to the museum. Therefore a transfer has been made into a designated fund to show this pledge.

21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st March 2025.

22. LIMITED LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of the same being wound up while he/she is still a member or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of rights of the contributories amongst themselves such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

Bexhill Museum

England & Wales - Charity number 1102638

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04959445 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1102638

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
FOR
BEXHILL MUSEUM
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

BEXHILL MUSEUM

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

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BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The stated objectives of the charity are to provide a museum in order to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public for their benefit, particularly by the presentation of exhibitions, lectures and other means of study relating to the display of local history, archaeology, history of costume, technology and engineering, the arts, ethnography, geology and social history.

Public benefit

The Trustees have confirmed that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in their opinion the foregoing report on the achievements and performance demonstrates that they have complied therewith.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

This year we have had some excellent additions to the collection including a Viking sword & axe donated to the museum, The sword was given over to a professional conservator before being put on display. These were very significant finds, and we must thank the landowners, the Finds Liaison Officer and the Heritage & Wildlife Crime Officer for making this possible. Also, some historic swords, knives and a pistol were donated by Sussex Police.

Some of the artefacts recovered from the wreck of the 17th century Dutch warship Klein Hollandia went on display. We hope more artefacts will be delivered in the future. A popular exhibition entitled 'Hats, Hats, Hats' opened in partnership with Dr Ruth Cereceda & Carolyn Kane from Bader College in Herstmonceux.

As always, our groups of collections volunteers have been working away adding new donations to the collection, checking the records on the database and developing new displays and exhibitions.

A team from Southampton University examined some of our collections of dinosaur teeth. Exciting results are expected when the paper is published. Falconbury School Old Boys visited in October 2023. Many of the group recognised their younger selves from photos in the archive. A group examined the St Vincent Papers in November 2023. It was a privilege to show a resident of St Vincent these important and emotive documents about the slave trade.

The popular More4 TV show 'Small Trains & Big Names' featured the Bexhill 1940 Winter Wartime Model Railway, with host Pete Waterman, museum patron Suzy Izzard and the model railway team. The Catsfield Hoard, which includes middle bronze age palstaves and the remains of two rare Sussex Loops were photographed and studied by Jamie Kaminski, editor of the Sussex Archaeological Collections journal.

The Education Group hosted 56 school visits from 29 different local schools during term time, including a few bespoke sessions based on themes chosen by the school. Accompanied by around 200 teachers, the visits brought 1,554 children and young people to the museum, of which 85% came from state, church or local academy run schools.

We also provided support for special needs pupil groups, and 13 travel bursaries to ease the cost of coach hire for schools.

The fundraising team led by trustee Peggy Goodberry had a particularly good year, bringing in £12,727 during 2023-24 - an amazing 45% increase on the year before thanks to a well organised and attended stream of events, walks and talks.

The hard-working Visitor Services and Events teams added more evening visits by youth groups such as the Cubs, Brownies, Beavers and Rainbows, and coped admirably with large groups, including a party of 100 students from Germany. The Events team also ran stalls at town events of all sizes such as Bexhill 100 and Bexhill Carnival.

Thanks again to our volunteers, the museum was again able to open from Boxing Day to New Year's Day. Largely due to their year-round efforts the Museum was awarded a Trip Advisor 'Traveller's Choice Award' for the second year running. This means the museum is in the top ten percent of venues by number of positive reviews on the site.

Finally, we record the sad passing of much-loved volunteers and members during the year. Philip Plummer joined in 2007 and worked on the indexing of the archives. Peter Carey worked on special exhibitions until about 2000 and was a regular attendee at the museum lectures until his passing. Lorna Extence was a long-standing member and a diligent participant in our annual general meetings over several years. Both Lorna and Peter were kind enough to remember the Museum in their wills. All will be much missed.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The strategy outlined by the Forward Plan aims for self-sufficiency - ensuring that trading income & volunteer raised funds cover operational expenses. This will help volunteers to meet the expectations of all our audiences, six days a week, to the highest possible standards.

Both unrestricted income and expenses, left, are ringfenced. Ringfenced 'unrestricted' income came to £93,786 in 2023-24, up from £81,911 in 2022-23 - primarily thanks to higher visitor numbers and excellent volunteer fundraising results - leaving a surplus of £5,213 despite an increase of £2,552 in expenditures to £88,573 over 2023-24.

The rise in income was boosted by an admission price increase, raising ticket income to £37,153 from £26,197 the year before, separately backed up by effective volunteer fundraising. Ringfenced unrestricted cash in hand totalled £36,838 at end 2023-24, a bulwark against which extra core expenses may be considered in 2024-25, such as staff hires, or to cover unexpected costs following planned changes to our electricity supplies in 2024.

Everything else - from new roofing and display cases to special exhibitions and special events for young and old, able bodied or otherwise - must be raised from outside donors and various funding bodies. These 'restricted' funds allow expansion and improvement of collections management, care, display and use for audience growth, via a portfolio of carefully designed time-limited projects - without drawing from museum resources put aside for its core operations.

Away from core expenses, there were unexpected off-budget expenses for extra survey & design work for next year's capital project. A fall in restricted income from project activities, plus fewer legacies, meant that combined restricted & unrestricted income fell by £15,881 to £110,658.

Throughout the year, Bexhill Museum's restricted fundraising strategy focused on raising the £500k needed for urgent renovation works on the roof and the basement. This was achieved, but the confirmed cash did not arrive until after the year's end, so next year's figures will look very different to this year's.

The planned works aim to add two extra project activity spaces to the museum which will substantially increase opportunities to plan, fund and implement new museum collection-based project activities, bringing in new resources, new income and more audiences.

The figures are skewed in two areas. Membership income for this year includes £3,043 from 2022-23's earnings due to an end-of-year delay in transfer, and a fall of £3,022 in utilities costs is due to underbilling by Rother following problems with their account transfers.

All in all, the end of year balance - the overall 'value' of the charity- fell to £213,742, a decrease of £8,861 from £222,603 the year before. However, this balance will nearly treble in 2024-25 when new restricted funds for the new roof and basement arrive.

Reserves policy

The unrestricted General Fund, representing funds available for the day-to-day operation of the Museum, at the end of March 2024 stood at £36,838. The balance of restricted funds at the end of the year, monies restricted for specific donor funded activities, was £73,154.

We treat total unrestricted income over the year, which came to £95,679 in 2023-24, as our working turnover figure. We then ensure that no less than ten percent of this is held as a minimum reserve within the General Fund balance in the unlikely event of an enforced closure.

In that event the collection would have to be relocated or ethically disposed of, and liabilities such as legal fees or redundancies covered - though in almost every reasonable circumstance the museum would be able claim insurance to cover such expenses.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

FUTURE PLANS

The coming year will see large areas of the lower ground floor substantially renovated, with a new education room and store, floodproofing, floor levelling and new mobile shelving in the main storage room, and hopefully, a new space for the storage and study of important archaeological finds from the Bexhill area and off its coastline.

These new spaces, and the artefacts and resources they hold, will enable a major expansion of the museum's work from April 2026: in collections care & management, in new activities for smaller groups of children and people with special needs, for life-long education and specialist academic research, and in new park-side events for all ages.

The spaces are key to achieving the ambition and vision of the Museum's Forward Plan, adopted unanimously by the membership in October 2023: to maintain a museum that is "volunteer-run, expert-led, traditional in presentation, modern in expression, diverse in appeal, respectful of the history and artefacts it holds in trust, protective of Bexhill's past, creative with its present, adaptable for its future".

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Company's governing documents are its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 October 2003 and amended by written resolution dated 10 February 2004 and special resolutions dated 3 October 2012 and 20 October 2021. Copies of these documents are available by request. The company is limited by guarantee.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The power of appointing new or additional Trustees is vested in the Trustees. Prior to appointment, new Trustees would be introduced to the workings of the charity, given a role description and advised of their responsibilities.

Organisational structure

The Management Team is appointed by the Trustees and meet weekly to review activities and manage the museum on a day-to-day basis. The group is made up of the volunteer coordinator, Gordon Smith, the Business Support Officer, Rohan Jayasekera, a representative of the Collections Care team, Stella Hales-Morris, and the Curator Julian Porter.

There is currently only one formal staff employee of the Museum, housekeeper Toni Neville, employed part-time for housekeeping duties. Rother District Curator Julian Porter MA is seconded by Rother District Council as Curator to Bexhill Museum. Rohan Jayasekera MSc MA is contracted by the Museum month-by-month on a part-time freelance basis as Business Support Officer.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed and identified the risks to which the charity is exposed and have ensured that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees have updated the existing Child Protection Policy to take account of changes in practice regarding the Safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04959445 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1102638

Registered office

Bexhill Museum
Egerton Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN39 3HL

BEXHILL MUSEUM

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

Trustees

Dr A G Stacey
Mrs G D Bradley
P A Goodberry
Mrs S A Hemmings
G R Smith
Dr M G Bell
D Scales
B Stringer (resigned 10/1/2024)
Ms C J Hirst (appointed 6/12/2023)
J B Trainor (appointed 6/12/2023)
Ms K J Byford (appointed 6/12/2023)

Patron

Suzy Izzard

Honorary President

Mr D J Betts

Neither the Patron nor Honorary President is an officer of the charity.

Company Secretary

R A Jayasekera

Independent Examiner

David Ashby FCCA ACA
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

Accountants

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1HE.

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, Devonshire Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1AG.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20th August 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs S A Hemmings - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEXHILL MUSEUM

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bexhill Museum ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

David Ashby FCCA ACA

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

30th September 2024

BEXHILL MUSEUM**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	<i>2023 Total funds £</i>
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	23,656	12,064	35,720	60,389
Charitable activities					
Admission fees		37,153	-	37,153	26,197
Education room hire and training		6,677	-	6,677	5,853
Royalties from publications		136	-	136	140
Other trading activities	3	25,549	2,915	28,464	25,681
Investment income	4	282	-	282	51
Other income	5	2,226	-	2,226	8,228
Total		95,679	14,979	110,658	126,539
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	15,069	-	15,069	13,762
Charitable activities	7				
Projects		3,328	17,544	20,872	8,081
Museum expenditure		62,926	-	62,926	80,764
Finance and administration services		20,652	-	20,652	19,836
Total		101,975	17,544	119,519	122,443
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(6,296)	(2,565)	(8,861)	4,096
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		146,884	75,719	222,603	218,507
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		140,588	73,154	213,742	222,603

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BEXHILL MUSEUM**BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	<i>2023 Total funds £</i>
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	75,618	-	75,618	87,090
Heritage assets	15	25,374	43,569	68,943	66,869
Investments	16	2	-	2	2
		100,994	43,569	144,563	153,961
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	17	4,110	-	4,110	4,893
Debtors	18	7,236	750	7,986	11,729
Cash at bank and in hand		31,191	28,835	60,026	55,704
		42,537	29,585	72,122	72,326
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	19	(2,943)	-	(2,943)	(3,684)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		39,594	29,585	69,179	68,642
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		140,588	73,154	213,742	222,603
NET ASSETS					
		140,588	73,154	213,742	222,603
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	20			140,588	146,884
Restricted funds				73,154	75,719
TOTAL FUNDS					
				213,742	222,603

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31ST MARCH 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 20th August 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

S A Hemmings - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemption in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display cases and shelving	- 5% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% on cost
Interactive displays	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Heritage assets

Acquisitions for the collection since 1st April 2010, whether donated or purchased, are capitalised and recognised in the balance sheet at the cost or value of the acquisition, where such cost or valuation is reasonably obtainable and reliable. Items donated or bequeathed to the Museum's collection are valued by internal valuers if an external valuation for the items is not available. Such items are not depreciated or revalued.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	<i>2023</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Donations	5,428	<i>11,241</i>
Tax recoverable on gift aid	853	<i>1,970</i>
Legacy	500	<i>3,000</i>
Grants	18,980	<i>40,979</i>
Subscriptions	7,885	<i>2,151</i>
Donations to museum collection	2,074	<i>1,048</i>
	<u>35,720</u>	<i><u>60,389</u></i>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	<i>2023</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Rother District Council - Service level agreement	8,500	<i>8,500</i>
Arts Council: Hastings and Bexhill Museums and Schools Project (via Hastings Council)	7,480	<i>7,479</i>
Bexhill Town Council	3,000	<i>-</i>
East Sussex County Council - Captial project	-	<i>23,500</i>
Arts Council: Insight to Culture	-	<i>1,500</i>
	<u>18,980</u>	<i><u>40,979</u></i>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	<i>2023</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Shop and cafe income	15,225	<i>16,239</i>
Fund raising income	12,727	<i>8,714</i>
Sale of clothing	437	<i>378</i>
Other income	75	<i>350</i>
	<u>28,464</u>	<i><u>25,681</u></i>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

4. INVESTMENT INCOME		2024	2023
		£	£
Interest on cash investments		282	51
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5. OTHER INCOME		2024	2023
		£	£
Museums and Galleries Exhibition tax relief refund		-	1,708
Expenditure recharges to Rother District Council		2,226	6,520
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		2,226	8,228
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
6. RAISING FUNDS			
Other trading activities		2024	2023
		£	£
Opening stock		4,893	4,098
Purchases		10,909	12,073
Closing stock		(4,110)	(4,893)
Fund raising, publicity and other costs		3,377	2,484
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		15,069	13,762
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS			
	Direct	Support	Totals
	Costs (see	costs (see	
	note 8)	note 9)	
	£	£	£
Projects	18,612	2,260	20,872
Museum expenditure	59,372	3,554	62,926
Finance and administration services	-	20,652	20,652
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	77,984	26,466	104,450
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2024	2023
		£	£
Conservation		1,882	874
Collections, exhibitions and special projects		5,010	7,207
Computer & IT costs		3,172	3,597
Education & lecture costs		5,401	3,108
Subscriptions and conferences		1,738	1,044
Repairs and renewals		1,837	310
Advertising & promotion (inc newsletter and website)		8,226	6,178
General rates, water rates, gas, electricity & telephone		14,868	17,890
Cleaner's salary and cleaning consumables		7,754	7,520
Insurance		3,049	2,665
Printing, postage and stationery		1,596	1,224
Volunteer expenses		155	140
Payroll processing fees		384	360
Security and fire protection		4,356	2,547
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carried forward		59,428	54,664

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

	2024	<i>2023</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Brought forward	59,428	<i>54,664</i>
Sundry expenses	203	<i>50</i>
Travel	507	<i>2,197</i>
Professional fees	3,373	<i>10,172</i>
Displays, signage etc (inc corridor project)	13	<i>765</i>
Bank charges	480	<i>446</i>
Card fees	708	<i>606</i>
Depreciation	13,272	<i>15,988</i>
	<u>77,984</u>	<i><u>84,888</u></i>

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance	Totals
	£	costs £	£
Projects	-	2,260	2,260
Museum expenditure	-	3,554	3,554
Finance and administration services	20,652	-	20,652
	<u>20,652</u>	<u>5,814</u>	<u>26,466</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Management

	2024	<i>2023</i>
	Finance and administration services £	Total activities £
Sub contract administrative services	20,652	19,836

Governance costs

	Projects	Museum	2024	<i>2023</i>
	£	expenditure £	Total activities £	Total activities £
Accountancy fees	-	1,704	1,704	1,680
Independent examiner's fees	-	456	456	432
Legal fees	2,260	1,394	3,654	1,845
	<u>2,260</u>	<u>3,554</u>	<u>5,814</u>	<u>3,957</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>13,272</u>	<u>15,988</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2024 nor for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2024 nor for the year ended 31st March 2023.

12. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	5,460	5,460
Social security costs	0	0
Pensions	0	0
	<u>5,460</u>	<u>5,460</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Cleaner	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	15,761	44,628	60,389
Charitable activities			
Admission fees	26,197	-	26,197
Education room hire and training	5,853	-	5,853
Royalties from publications	140	-	140
Other trading activities	25,681	-	25,681
Investment income	51	-	51
Other income	8,228	-	8,228
Total	<u>81,911</u>	<u>44,628</u>	<u>126,539</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	13,762	-	13,762

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**
13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Projects	2,256	5,825	8,081
Museum expenditure	67,051	13,713	80,764
Finance and administration services	19,836	-	19,836
Total	<u>102,905</u>	<u>19,538</u>	<u>122,443</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(20,994)	25,090	4,096
Transfers between funds	<u>(1,500)</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	(22,494)	26,590	4,096
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	169,378	49,129	218,507
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>146,884</u></u>	<u><u>75,719</u></u>	<u><u>222,603</u></u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display cases and shelving £	Fixtures and fittings £	Interactive displays £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1st April 2023	137,461	112,793	67,717	44,429	362,400
Additions	-	-	-	1,800	1,800
At 31st March 2024	<u>137,461</u>	<u>112,793</u>	<u>67,717</u>	<u>46,229</u>	<u>364,200</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1st April 2023	99,849	63,643	67,717	44,101	275,310
Charge for year	6,872	5,636	-	764	13,272
At 31st March 2024	<u>106,721</u>	<u>69,279</u>	<u>67,717</u>	<u>44,865</u>	<u>288,582</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31st March 2024	<u><u>30,740</u></u>	<u><u>43,514</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,364</u></u>	<u><u>75,618</u></u>
At 31st March 2023	<u><u>37,612</u></u>	<u><u>49,150</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>328</u></u>	<u><u>87,090</u></u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

15. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2023	66,869
Additions - donated	2,074
	68,943
At 31st March 2024	68,943
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2024	68,943
	68,943
At 31st March 2023	<u>66,869</u>

As set out in note 1, the balance shown here only reflects the acquisitions for the collection since 1 April 2010. The valuation of the donated items are carried out by the Museum's Curator.

Five year financial summary of heritage asset transactions

	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Purchases	0	200	0	0	0
Donations	2,074	1,048	25,662	851	951
	2,074	1,248	25,662	851	951
Total additions	2,074	1,248	25,662	851	951
	2,074	1,248	25,662	851	951
Disposal	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0

16. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2023 and 31st March 2024	2
	2
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2024	2
	2
At 31st March 2023	<u>2</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited

Registered office: Bexhill Museum, Egerton Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3HL

Nature of business: Dormant company

	%		31/3/24	31/3/23
Class of share:	holding			
Ordinary	100			
			£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves			2	2

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Bexhill Museums Trading Limited. Its capital consists of 2 £1 shares both of which have been issued at par.

BEXHILL MUSEUM**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024****16. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited ceased trading on 31 March 2019 and is currently dormant.

17. STOCKS

	2024	<i>2023</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Stocks	<u>4,110</u>	<i><u>4,893</u></i>

18. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	<i>2023</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Grant receivable	-	<i>2,991</i>
Other debtors	<u>7,986</u>	<i><u>8,738</u></i>
	<u>7,986</u>	<i><u>11,729</u></i>

19. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	<i>2023</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Amounts owed to group undertakings	2	<i>2</i>
Other creditors	<u>2,941</u>	<i><u>3,682</u></i>
	<u>2,943</u>	<i><u>3,684</u></i>

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/23	Net movement in funds	At
	£	£	31/3/24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	31,625	5,213	36,838
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	87,090	(13,272)	73,818
Collection acquisitions designated fund	23,500	1,874	25,374
Elva repairs designated fund	100	-	100
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	4,057	-	4,057
Costumes designated fund	512	(111)	401
	<u>146,884</u>	<u>(6,296)</u>	<u>140,588</u>
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	43,369	200	43,569
Local research	281	(281)	-
Capital works project	20,723	(8,634)	12,089
Museum in a box	168	(168)	-
Izzard family train set	6,966	(2,495)	4,471
Piano	654	-	654
Museum and schools	2,783	2,289	5,072
InSight to Culture	775	(775)	-
Merryweather fund	-	7,299	7,299
	<u>75,719</u>	<u>(2,565)</u>	<u>73,154</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>222,603</u>	<u>(8,861)</u>	<u>213,742</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**
20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	93,786	(88,573)	5,213
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	-	(13,272)	(13,272)
Collection acquisitions designated fund	1,874	-	1,874
Costumes designated fund	19	(130)	(111)
	95,679	(101,975)	(6,296)
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	200	-	200
Local research	-	(281)	(281)
Capital works project	-	(8,634)	(8,634)
Museum in a box	-	(168)	(168)
Izzard family train set	-	(2,495)	(2,495)
Museum and schools	7,480	(5,191)	2,289
InSight to Culture	-	(775)	(775)
Merryweather fund	7,299	-	7,299
	14,979	(17,544)	(2,565)
TOTAL FUNDS	110,658	(119,519)	(8,861)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**
20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued
Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	39,243	(4,110)	(3,508)	31,625
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	101,070	(15,988)	2,008	87,090
Collection acquisitions designated fund	23,300	-	200	23,500
Elva repairs designated fund	100	-	-	100
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	4,057	-	-	4,057
Costumes designated fund	1,608	(896)	(200)	512
	<u>169,378</u>	<u>(20,994)</u>	<u>(1,500)</u>	<u>146,884</u>
Restricted funds				
Collection acquisitions fund	42,321	1,048	-	43,369
Local research	281	-	-	281
Capital works project	-	19,223	1,500	20,723
Museum in a box	168	-	-	168
Izzard family train set	134	6,832	-	6,966
Piano	654	-	-	654
Museum and schools	2,265	518	-	2,783
InSight to Culture	3,306	(2,531)	-	775
	<u>49,129</u>	<u>25,090</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>75,719</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>218,507</u>	<u>4,096</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>222,603</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,910	(86,020)	(4,110)
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	-	(15,988)	(15,988)
Costumes designated fund	1	(897)	(896)
	<u>81,911</u>	<u>(102,905)</u>	<u>(20,994)</u>
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	1,048	-	1,048
Capital works project	23,499	(4,276)	19,223
Izzard family train set	10,500	(3,668)	6,832
Museum and schools	7,480	(6,962)	518
InSight to Culture	2,101	(4,632)	(2,531)
	<u>44,628</u>	<u>(19,538)</u>	<u>25,090</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>126,539</u>	<u>(122,443)</u>	<u>4,096</u>

Designated funds

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the value of the fixed assets held by the charity.

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

The Collection acquisitions designated fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010, for items which the trustees have the power to dispose of at their discretion. During the year over 50 items were donated to the museum.

The Elva repairs fund is money designated for repairs to the Elva car.

Bexhill's lost world development project fund is monies designated from the receipt of a legacy in 2016 towards an extension to the museum.

The Costumes fund is made up of a donation of £2,000 which was designated towards the costs relating to the costumes held by the museum.

Restricted funds

The Collection acquisitions restricted fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010. During the year over 100 items were donated to the museum.

The Local research fund represents donations towards local research costs.

A major project for the stripping out and refitting of the semi-derelict basement stores and other urgent works was confirmed at the year's end. Funds received for this purpose in previous years were held in a Capital Project fund during the current year and will be transferred to a new dedicated fund with its own bank account in 2024-25.

The Museum in a box fund is the balance of funds received for the museum in a box project.

The Izzard family train set fund is monies received towards the upkeep, improvement and changes to the layout of the model train set display.

The piano fund is made up of donations for the ongoing costs of maintaining the piano.

The Hastings & Bexhill Museums & Schools account draws on funds from an Arts Council project, now its fourth year, which is designed to encourage stronger shared activities with local schools. Though a restricted fund, it allows spending on a wide range of education related activities.

The InSight to Culture fund is a grant from the Arts Council for that project.

The Merryweather fund is grants and donations received towards the restoration costs of Bexhill's 1895 Merryweather horse-drawn, steam powered fire engine which will be permanently displayed at the museum once restoration is complete.

21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st March 2024.

22. LIMITED LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of the same being wound up while he/she is still a member or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of rights of the contributories amongst themselves such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

Bexhill Museum

England & Wales - Charity number 1102638

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04959445 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1102638

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
FOR
BEXHILL MUSEUM
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

BEXHILL MUSEUM

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

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BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The stated objectives of the charity are to provide a museum in order to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public for their benefit, particularly by the presentation of exhibitions, lectures and other means of study relating to the display of local history, archaeology, history of costume, technology and engineering, the arts, ethnography, geology and social history.

Public benefit

The Trustees have confirmed that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in their opinion the foregoing report on the achievements and performance demonstrates that they have complied therewith.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

As announced at the AGM, due to expanding family and work commitments, Natalie Tilbury has stepped down as a trustee and as chair. The trustees and membership agreed that Sally Hemmings should take over as chair of Bexhill Museum, and Anne Stacey remain as vice-chair.

New trustees, Beth Stringer, a teaching assistant, Dan Scales, a fundraiser formerly at the De la Warr Pavilion, and Professor Martin Bell, president of the Sussex Archaeological Society, are now making a significant impact on the Museum's work.

Three more trustees are sought, with direct museum sector curatorial experience, experience in education and skills development, and a treasurer. Based on the 2021 Trustees 'Skills Audit', two more may be sought to address sustainability and staff & volunteer HR policy management.

The first challenge of the year was the drafting of the Forward Plan 2024-27. This proposal follows a year of discussions on the board to set new objectives and measurable targets for the Museum as a whole, for the purpose of maintaining its identity as an independent volunteer run organisation.

This work was supported by the establishment in June 2022 of a Development & Finance Sub-Committee, comprised of Dan Scales & Peggy Goodberry, tasked to give extra attention to the business & infrastructure development projects at the heart of the Forward Plan's objectives.

Within the Forward Plan Bexhill Museum will continue as a volunteer-run operation - its work enhanced by museum sector professionals and by volunteer skills development programmes, and directed day by day by the Management Team, with authority clearly delegated to it by the Trustees.

The Plan recognises that we will always have to be self-financing - conventional revenue grant funding is not on offer, and that the money from admissions, shop & café and volunteer fundraising will only just be enough to 'keep the doors open'.

With this in mind we are ringfencing these funds to cover the basics - utilities, building maintenance, security, etc. The costs of actual activities and fixtures & fittings - new exhibitions and displays, and projects such as our schools & lifelong learning programmes - will be funded by other means.

In her introduction to the Forward Plan chair Sally Hemmings wrote: "The museum is vibrant, the volunteers are welcoming, well led, and supported with access to training. The quality of our offer and our contribution to community cohesion can be seen in our visitor comments and online reviews. Our 2023-4 capital projects will lay the foundations for another 100 years of community service and placemaking in Bexhill, providing essential life-long education services and assets for diverse groups and local people of all ages, while adding proven value to Bexhill's visitor economy."

Scores of supporters, members and volunteers have contributed to the running of the Museum, too many to mention here, but we do thank the Chair Sally Hemmings and vice-Chair Anne Stacey for their contributions and the Management Team - Stella Hales-Morris and trustee Gordon Smith, District Curator, Julian Porter, and Secretary of the board of Trustees, Rohan Jayasekera.

We also mourn the loss of several long-time supporters of the Museum, our long serving volunteers Peter Booth, Yvonne Cleland, David Hughes, and Philip Plummer. Our condolences go also to Museum honorary president John Betts, whose wife Diana has also passed away, and to the family of member Jeannette Winter, who kindly left the museum a legacy in her will.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

We are pleased to report further progress in our recovery from the lockdown years. The total funds carried forward - the broad 'value' of the charity at the end of the year - is £222,603, a small rise of just under 2% on last year's total, but still an achievement in the current economic environment.

A far greater achievement belongs to the volunteer front of house teams, shop & café coordinators, and the ever-welcoming education and fundraising events teams. Together they have helped increase our on-site visitor numbers to 17,066 and a 23% rise in ticket sales to £26,197 over the year.

In total, combined with the efforts of our generous members, plus general donations, and legacies, we generated £81,911 in unrestricted funds over the year to keep the Museum open to the general public and its collections secure.

Accordingly, we ringfence these unrestricted trading income & volunteer raised funds to cover the core staff & operational expenses needed to safely open the building for our volunteers to meet the expectations of all audiences, six days a week, to the highest possible standards.

Our thousands of visitors from out of town also boost the local economy. The Arts Council agency Museum Development estimates the Museum added £179,961 to Rother's economy in 2021/22, 12.6% more than the regional average. This will have increased by nearly a quarter in 2022/23.

Our education volunteers provided learning and resources to another 3,983 children from 21 different local & East Sussex schools, as well as supporting the Holiday Activities & Food programme, for children who would otherwise be eligible for free school meals in term time.

These are part-funded by grants from the County Council and the Arts Council's Museums & Schools Educational Programme. Joint projects like these, part-funded by outside agencies, devised in partnership with other groups, and run by volunteers, will become key to the Museum's future.

These will be restricted funds: delivering the work outlined by the board Action Plan by securing the extra resources needed to expand and improve exhibitions, collections management, care, display & use. These will be provided via a portfolio of carefully designed time-limited projects.

In 2023-4 our financial objectives will be to provide the storage and multi-use spaces needed to accommodate more, and more varied activities. This will require substantial capital funding to create the needed spaces, fixtures & fittings.

Secondly, we will secure funds to introduce the practices and activities, as highlighted by the Board Action Plan, Forward Plan and Arts Council accreditation priorities, to the daily operations of the museum. This will require project funding to put the spaces to new, varied, and productive uses.

Finally, our financial objectives will help establish the partnership, audience development & income generation strategies needed for stable long-term operation up to and beyond 2030. This will require volunteer development programmes to keep the spaces productively operated.

Reserves policy

At the end of March 2022, the General Unrestricted Fund, which represents the funds available for the day-to-day operation of the Museum had settled post-COVID at £39,243. At end March 2023, largely due to significant investment in surveys ahead of 2023-4's projected capital projects but balanced by a small end of year trading surplus, the General Unrestricted Fund fell to £31,625.

Of this amount the rough equivalent of two months' turnover or £15,600 is put aside in a deposit account, to be held 'in the event of an emergency'. That left the Museum at end 2022-23 with an unrestricted funds working balance of £16,025 to add to 2023-24's projected trading revenues of £82,000.

The term 'emergency' is simply defined as the enforced closure of the Museum, when the collection would have to be relocated, offered to other museums, or ethically disposed of, and any liabilities such as legal fees or redundancies covered - bearing in mind that in such circumstances the museum would normally be eligible to make a significant insurance claim to cover such expenses.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Company's governing documents are its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 October 2003 and amended by written resolution dated 10 February 2004 and special resolutions dated 3 October 2012 and 20 October 2021. Copies of these documents are available by request. The company is limited by guarantee.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The power of appointing new or additional Trustees is vested in the Trustees. Prior to appointment, new Trustees would be introduced to the workings of the charity, given a role description and advised of their responsibilities.

Organisational structure

The Management Team is appointed by the Trustees and meet weekly to review activities and manage the museum on a day-to-day basis. The group is made up of the volunteer coordinator, Gordon Smith, the Business Support Officer, Rohan Jayasekera, a representative of the Collections Care team, Stella Hales-Morris, and the Curator Julian Porter.

There is currently only one formal staff employee of the Museum, housekeeper Toni Neville, employed part-time for housekeeping duties. Rother District Curator Julian Porter MA is seconded by Rother District Council as Curator to Bexhill Museum. Rohan Jayasekera MSc MA is contracted by the Museum month-by-month on a part-time freelance basis as Business Support Officer.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed and identified the risks to which the charity is exposed and have ensured that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees have updated the existing Child Protection Policy to take account of changes in practice regarding the Safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04959445 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1102638

Registered office

Bexhill Museum
Egerton Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN39 3HL

Trustees

Dr A G Stacey
Mrs G D Bradley
P A Goodberry
S A Hemmings
G R Smith
N R Tilbury (resigned 19/10/2022)
Dr M G Bell (appointed 5/12/2022)
D Scales (appointed 7/12/2022)
B Stringer (appointed 7/12/2022)

Patron

Eddie Izzard

Honorary President

Mr D J Betts

Neither the Patron nor Honorary President is an officer of the charity.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company Secretary

R A Jayasekera

Independent Examiner

Samantha Whiting FCA
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

Accountants

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1HE.

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, Devonshire Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1AG.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 9th August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

S A Hemmings - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEXHILL MUSEUM

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bexhill Museum ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Samantha Whiting FCA

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

23rd August 2023

BEXHILL MUSEUM**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	<i>2022 Total funds £</i>
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	15,761	44,628	60,389	89,806
Charitable activities					
Admission fees		26,197	-	26,197	20,768
Education room hire and training		5,853	-	5,853	4,115
Royalties from publications		140	-	140	132
Other trading activities	3	25,681	-	25,681	21,879
Investment income	4	51	-	51	51
Other income	5	8,228	-	8,228	-
Total		81,911	44,628	126,539	136,751
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	13,762	-	13,762	15,534
Charitable activities					
Projects	7	2,256	5,825	8,081	6,480
Museum expenditure		67,051	13,713	80,764	99,951
Finance and administration services		19,836	-	19,836	18,336
Total		102,905	19,538	122,443	140,301
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(20,994)	25,090	4,096	<i>(3,550)</i>
Transfers between funds	20	(1,500)	1,500	-	-
Net movement in funds		(22,494)	26,590	4,096	<i>(3,550)</i>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		169,378	49,129	218,507	222,057
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		146,884	75,719	222,603	218,507

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

BEXHILL MUSEUM**BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	<i>2022 Total funds £</i>
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	87,090	-	87,090	<i>101,070</i>
Heritage assets	15	23,500	43,369	66,869	<i>65,621</i>
Investments	16	2	-	2	<i>2</i>
		110,592	43,369	153,961	<i>166,693</i>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	17	4,893	-	4,893	<i>4,098</i>
Debtors	18	9,729	2,000	11,729	<i>7,255</i>
Cash at bank and in hand		25,354	30,350	55,704	<i>42,527</i>
		39,976	32,350	72,326	<i>53,880</i>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	19	(3,684)	-	(3,684)	<i>(2,066)</i>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		36,292	32,350	68,642	<i>51,814</i>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		146,884	75,719	222,603	<i>218,507</i>
NET ASSETS					
		146,884	75,719	222,603	<i>218,507</i>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	20			146,884	<i>169,378</i>
Restricted funds				75,719	<i>49,129</i>
TOTAL FUNDS					
				222,603	<i>218,507</i>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31ST MARCH 2023

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 9th August 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

S A Hemmings - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display cases and shelving	- 5% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% on cost
Interactive displays	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Heritage assets

Acquisitions for the collection since 1st April 2010, whether donated or purchased, are capitalised and recognised in the balance sheet at the cost or value of the acquisition, where such cost or valuation is reasonably obtainable and reliable. Items donated or bequeathed to the Museum's collection are valued by internal valuers if an external valuation for the items is not available. Such items are not depreciated or revalued.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	11,241	4,667
Tax recoverable on gift aid	1,970	261
Legacy	3,000	-
Grants	40,979	45,910
Subscriptions	2,151	4,543
Donations to museum collection	1,048	34,425
	<u>60,389</u>	<u>89,806</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Rother District Council - Service level agreement	8,500	8,500
Rother District Council - Covid-19 Business Support	-	25,500
East Sussex County Council - Captial project	23,500	-
Arts Council: Hastings and Bexhill Museums and Schools Project (via Hastings Council)	7,479	6,055
Arts Council: Insight to Culture	1,500	-
Association of Independent Museums	-	5,106
South East Creative, Cultural and Digital Sector	-	279
HMRC CJRS	-	470
	<u>40,979</u>	<u>45,910</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Shop and cafe income	16,239	15,927
Fund raising income	8,714	4,173
Sale of clothing	378	1,779
Other income	350	-
	<u>25,681</u>	<u>21,879</u>

BEXHILL MUSEUM**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

4. INVESTMENT INCOME		2023	2022
		£	£
Interest on cash investments		51	51
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5. OTHER INCOME		2023	2022
		£	£
Museums and Galleries Exhibition tax relief refund		1,708	-
Expenditure recharges to Rother District Council		6,520	-
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		8,228	-
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
6. RAISING FUNDS			
Other trading activities		2023	2022
		£	£
Opening stock		4,098	6,540
Purchases		12,073	11,982
Closing stock		(4,893)	(4,098)
Fund raising, publicity and other costs		2,484	1,110
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		13,762	15,534
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS			
	Direct	Support	Totals
	Costs (see	costs (see	
	note 8)	note 9)	
	£	£	£
Projects	8,081	-	8,081
Museum expenditure	76,807	3,957	80,764
Finance and administration services	-	19,836	19,836
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	84,888	23,793	108,681
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		2023	2022
		£	£
Conservation		874	2,204
Collections, exhibitions and special projects		7,207	6,480
Computer & IT costs		3,597	2,728
Education & lecture costs		3,108	2,764
Subscriptions and conferences		1,044	1,367
Repairs and renewals		310	1,586
Advertising & promotion (inc newsletter and website)		6,178	2,936
General rates, water rates, gas, electricity & telephone		17,890	8,830
Cleaner's salary and cleaning consumables		7,520	5,987
Insurance		2,665	2,519
Printing, postage and stationery		1,224	2,625
Volunteer expenses		140	374
Payroll processing fees		360	516
Security and fire protection		2,547	2,448
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carried forward		54,664	43,364

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Brought forward	54,664	<i>43,364</i>
Sundry expenses	50	<i>54</i>
Travel	2,197	<i>245</i>
Professional fees	10,172	<i>21,883</i>
Displays, signage etc (inc corridor project)	765	<i>22,109</i>
Bank charges	446	<i>317</i>
Card fees	606	<i>333</i>
Depreciation	15,988	<i>15,754</i>
	<u>84,888</u>	<i><u>104,059</u></i>

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance	Totals
	£	costs £	£
Museum expenditure	-	3,957	3,957
Finance and administration services	19,836	-	19,836
	<u>19,836</u>	<u>3,957</u>	<u>23,793</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Management

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	Finance and administration services £	Total activities £
Sub contract administrative services	19,836	18,336

Governance costs

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	Museum expenditure £	Total activities £
Accountancy fees	1,680	1,680
Independent examiner's fees	432	408
Legal fees	1,845	284
	<u>3,957</u>	<u>2,372</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>15,988</u>	<u>15,754</u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2023 nor for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2023 nor for the year ended 31st March 2022.

12. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	5,460	5,460
Social security costs	0	0
Pensions	0	0
	<u>5,460</u>	<u>5,460</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Cleaner	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	76,284	13,522	89,806
Charitable activities			
Admission fees	20,768	-	20,768
Education room hire and training	4,115	-	4,115
Royalties from publications	132	-	132
Other trading activities	21,879	-	21,879
Investment income	51	-	51
Total	<u>123,229</u>	<u>13,522</u>	<u>136,751</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	15,534	-	15,534

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**
13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Projects	1,876	4,604	6,480
Museum expenditure	89,047	10,904	99,951
Finance and administration services	18,336	-	18,336
Total	<u>124,793</u>	<u>15,508</u>	<u>140,301</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(1,564)	(1,986)	(3,550)
Transfers between funds	5,106	(5,106)	-
Net movement in funds	3,542	(7,092)	(3,550)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	165,837	56,220	222,057
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>169,379</u></u>	<u><u>49,128</u></u>	<u><u>218,507</u></u>

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display cases and shelving £	Fixtures and fittings £	Interactive displays £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1st April 2022	137,461	111,278	67,717	43,936	360,392
Additions	-	1,515	-	493	2,008
At 31st March 2023	<u>137,461</u>	<u>112,793</u>	<u>67,717</u>	<u>44,429</u>	<u>362,400</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1st April 2022	92,977	58,012	67,717	40,616	259,322
Charge for year	6,872	5,631	-	3,485	15,988
At 31st March 2023	<u>99,849</u>	<u>63,643</u>	<u>67,717</u>	<u>44,101</u>	<u>275,310</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31st March 2023	<u><u>37,612</u></u>	<u><u>49,150</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>328</u></u>	<u><u>87,090</u></u>
At 31st March 2022	<u><u>44,484</u></u>	<u><u>53,266</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>3,320</u></u>	<u><u>101,070</u></u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

15. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2022	65,621
Additions - donated	1,248
	<hr/>
At 31st March 2023	66,869
	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2023	66,869
	<hr/>
At 31st March 2022	<u>65,621</u>

As set out in note 1, the balance shown here only reflects the acquisitions for the collection since 1 April 2010. The valuation of the donated items are carried out by the Museum's Curator.

Five year financial summary of heritage asset transactions

	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
Purchases	200	0	0	0	0
Donations	1,048	25,662	851	951	1,390
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total additions	1,248	25,662	851	951	1,390
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Disposal	0	0	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

16. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023	2
	<hr/>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2023	2
	<hr/>
At 31st March 2022	<u>2</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited

Registered office: Bexhill Museum, Egerton Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3HL

Nature of business: Dormant company

Class of share:	%		
Ordinary	holding		
	100		
		31/3/23	31/3/22
		£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves		2	2

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Bexhill Museums Trading Limited. Its capital consists of 2 £1 shares both of which have been issued at par.

BEXHILL MUSEUM**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023****16. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited ceased trading on 31 March 2019 and is currently dormant.

17. STOCKS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Stocks	<u>4,893</u>	<u>4,098</u>

18. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Grant receivable	2,991	-
Other debtors	8,738	7,255
	<u>11,729</u>	<u>7,255</u>

19. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts owed to group undertakings	2	2
Other creditors	3,682	2,064
	<u>3,684</u>	<u>2,066</u>

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31/3/23
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	39,243	(4,110)	(3,508)	31,625
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	101,070	(15,988)	2,008	87,090
Collection acquisitions designated fund	23,300	-	200	23,500
Elva repairs designated fund	100	-	-	100
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	4,057	-	-	4,057
Costumes designated fund	1,608	(896)	(200)	512
	<u>169,378</u>	<u>(20,994)</u>	<u>(1,500)</u>	<u>146,884</u>
Restricted funds				
Collection acquisitions fund	42,321	1,048	-	43,369
Local research	281	-	-	281
Capital works project	-	19,223	1,500	20,723
Museum in a box	168	-	-	168
Izzard family train set	134	6,832	-	6,966
Piano	654	-	-	654
Museum and schools	2,265	518	-	2,783
InSight to Culture	3,306	(2,531)	-	775
	<u>49,129</u>	<u>25,090</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>75,719</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>218,507</u>	<u>4,096</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>222,603</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,911	(86,021)	(4,110)
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	-	(15,988)	(15,988)
Costumes designated fund	-	(896)	(896)
	81,911	(102,905)	(20,994)
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	1,048	-	1,048
Capital works project	23,499	(4,276)	19,223
Izzard family train set	10,500	(3,668)	6,832
Museum and schools	7,480	(6,962)	518
InSight to Culture	2,101	(4,632)	(2,531)
	44,628	(19,538)	25,090
TOTAL FUNDS	126,539	(122,443)	4,096

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	45,496	(5,798)	(455)	39,243
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	102,500	(6,991)	5,561	101,070
Collection acquisitions designated fund	-	23,300	-	23,300
Elva repairs designated fund	500	(400)	-	100
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	17,341	(13,284)	-	4,057
Costumes designated fund	-	1,608	-	1,608
	165,837	(1,565)	5,106	169,378
Restricted funds				
Collection acquisitions fund	39,959	2,362	-	42,321
Local research	281	-	-	281
Museum in a box	168	-	-	168
Izzard family train set	3,403	(3,269)	-	134
Piano	654	-	-	654
Museum and schools	-	2,265	-	2,265
InSight to Culture	11,755	(8,449)	-	3,306
Dehumidifiers	-	5,106	(5,106)	-
	56,220	(1,985)	(5,106)	49,129
TOTAL FUNDS	222,057	(3,550)	-	218,507

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	89,166	(94,964)	(5,798)
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	8,763	(15,754)	(6,991)
Collection acquisitions designated fund	23,300	-	23,300
Elva repairs designated fund	-	(400)	(400)
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	-	(13,284)	(13,284)
Costumes designated fund	2,000	(392)	1,608
	<u>123,229</u>	<u>(124,794)</u>	<u>(1,565)</u>
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	2,362	-	2,362
Izzard family train set	-	(3,269)	(3,269)
Museum and schools	6,055	(3,790)	2,265
InSight to Culture	(1)	(8,448)	(8,449)
Dehumidifiers	5,106	-	5,106
	<u>13,522</u>	<u>(15,507)</u>	<u>(1,985)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>136,751</u></u>	<u><u>(140,301)</u></u>	<u><u>(3,550)</u></u>

Designated funds

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the value of the fixed assets held by the charity.

The Collection acquisitions designated fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010, for items which the trustees have the power to dispose of at their discretion. During the year over 50 items were donated to the museum.

The Elva repairs fund is money designated for repairs to the Elva car.

Bexhill's lost world development project fund is monies designated from the receipt of a legacy in 2016 towards an extension to the museum.

The Costumes fund is made up of a donation of £2,000 which was designated towards the costs relating to the costumes held by the museum.

Restricted funds

The Collection acquisitions restricted fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010. During the year over 100 items were donated to the museum.

The Local research fund represents donations towards local research costs.

The Museum in a box fund is the balance of funds received for the museum in a box project.

The Izzard family train set fund is monies received towards the upkeep, improvement and changes to the layout of the model train set display.

The piano fund is made up of donations for the ongoing costs of maintaining the piano.

The InSight to Culture fund is a grant from the Arts Council for that project.

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A major project for the stripping out and refitting of the semi-derelict basement stores and other works around the building commenced in the year and funds have been received for this purpose so a Capital Project fund has been set up for these funds to be held until they have been spent.

Transfers between funds

Assets have been purchased using unrestricted funds so a transfer was made from the General fund to the Tangible fixed assets designated fund for the cost of these assets.

During 2021/22 a grant of £1,500 was received towards the capital project restricted fund. This has therefore been transferred to this fund during 2022/23.

The Costumes designated fund purchased a heritage asset in the year so the cost (£200) has been transferred to the designated heritage assets fund.

21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st March 2023.

22. LIMITED LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of the same being wound up while he/she is still a member or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of rights of the contributories amongst themselves such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

Bexhill Museum

England & Wales - Charity number 1102638

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04959445 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1102638

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
FOR
BEXHILL MUSEUM
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

BEXHILL MUSEUM

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

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BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The stated objectives of the charity are to provide a museum in order to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public for their benefit, particularly by the presentation of exhibitions, lectures and other means of study relating to the display of local history, archaeology, history of costume, technology and engineering, the arts, ethnography, geology and social history.

Public benefit

The Trustees have confirmed that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in their opinion the foregoing report on the achievements and performance demonstrates that they have complied therewith.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The first steps were taken to 'bring home' Bexhill's original Merryweather firefighters' pump (1895) and place it on display in the Museum. The crews at Bexhill Community Fire Station are very supportive, and keen to start a campaign to fundraise for its restoration in 2022-23.

The Museum partnered with the educational services charity Sussex Music, local artist Vicky Craggs and the De la Warr Pavilion to run Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) projects for schoolchildren eligible for free school meals. The government sponsored scheme was the inspiration of footballer Marcus Rashford, and now operates across the country to support children from low-income families or with special needs.

Our patron Eddie Izzard's latest film Six Minutes to Midnight was released on 29 March 2021, marked by a flurry of public and media interest in the Museum, Eddie's popular model railways and our display of costumes from the film, designed by Lucinda Wright, loaned by the costumiers Angels, with production photos by Amanda Searle. Much of the interest focused on the history of the town's notorious finishing school for daughters of the Nazi elite, the Augusta Victoria College in Dorset Road, and Eddie's remarkable video interview with the late Mollie Hickie, who worked at the college as an au pair before the it closed on the outbreak of WWII.

A second special exhibition showcased the collections' national and folk costumes from around the world. Called Common Threads, it looked at shared materials and techniques in clothing design between different cultures. Temporary exhibitions such as these will become more frequent at the Museum in coming years in response to the Trustees' support for a policy of Dynamic Collections. This will create more opportunities to bring rare artefacts out of the stores to be displayed in ways that encourage visitors to make new connections between aspects of the collection and the district's history.

Artist Colin Heminway's Insight to Culture project restarted after being suspended due to COVID restrictions in 2020. InSight to Culture is an Arts Council England funded project, engaging members of the local community who are living with impaired vision. An interactive display for the Sargent Gallery was designed and installed by Colin with the needs of the visually impaired and blind held foremost. The project will continue for a period after the end of its funding with the support of volunteer Angela Hart, and a kind donation by Bexhill charity group Homecall, a home visiting scheme for the visually impaired.

A report by Judi Wilkinson of the Design & Access group considered ten areas for action to improve access for disabled people to the Museum. The most substantive list of options involved support for visitors with sight and or hearing loss. There were also recommendations relating to evacuation of disabled people in an emergency. The report added a specific recommendation to the County Council, asking that it add disabled parking bays, a safe stop and drop off no-waiting bay outside the Museum, and add no parking lines by the drop kerb leading to the Museum wheelchair access ramp.

The Education Team, led by Anne Lucarotti and Lesley Wilde, supported by Anne Stacey, have had an excellent year. Adapting quickly to the changes required by Covid, more loan boxes were created, and a system of safe quarantining put in place. As restrictions were lifted, schools could gradually start returning to formal in-person visits and continued loan box hires. In the year under review 747 children visited the Museum in person in 27 separate visits, and another 1,123 children made use of our boxes in their classes in 21 loans. The programme aims to expand in 2022-23, as we extend our outreach to schools further away, working with Hastings Museum as part of the Arts Council funded Museums & Schools development scheme.

At the very end of the financial year, Bexhill Museum took in an extensive collection of historical artefacts and high-quality replicas from the former Sussex Libraries & Museum Service (SLAMS). Nearly all were carefully boxed, designed for safe transport out on loan to local schools. The 200+ items range from dolls and models to actual Greek and Roman jewellery and kitchenware. The items will allow a substantial expansion in our loan box and general education programming.

Membership

Membership levels remain steady despite a falloff in renewals during the Covid lockdown months. Since a degree of normality has returned, the numbers of new and renewed memberships have begun to climb with 96 new members signing up during 2021-22. There were 320 members in total at time of writing.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

The Management Team apologises for missed or delayed deliveries of the Members' Newsletter since the end of lockdown. Again, at time of writing, the next edition, number 131, is due to be published in August, and the issue after that, in November.

Trustees

Due to expanding family and work commitments, Leah Fusco has asked to step down as a trustee. Two new trustees were chosen by the board for formal nomination and endorsement by the membership in October 2022. Dan Scales, a fundraiser at the De La Warr Pavilion since 2018, experienced in arts, heritage, community, and medical third sector organisations, and Professor Martin Bell, former Professor of Archaeological Science at Reading University and president of the Sussex Archaeological Society.

Dan told trustees that he was interested in discussing fundraising options for the Museum and helping to make better use of survey market data and other performance metrics. Martin said he looked forward to supporting the Museum's future work with the Hastings-Bexhill bypass finds, which may provide unique evidence of the effect of climate change on the local area during the Mesolithic period - a long time subject interest of his.

Possible additional trustees were being identified, including one with educational services expertise. Based on the findings of a Trustees 'Skills Audit' carried out by Natalie Tilbury, other trustees may be sought covering gaps in the capacity of the trustees to address financial and building management; environmental sustainability; business planning and HR policy management.

Vice-Chair Anne Stacey was honoured among 15 others by Rother Voluntary Action for her volunteer work at the Museum. The RVA said the award had been given not only for her many years of service, but also for her efforts to expand the Museum's services to a broader section of the Bexhill and Rother visitor base to include children, the disabled, special needs groups, and the elderly. Anne said that she had accepted the award on behalf of all the Museum's volunteers.

Volunteers

Bexhill Museum is volunteer-run and is completely dependent on their active contributions to keep us open and running smoothly. Volunteer Coordinator Gordon Smith runs the daily teams, with Angela Johnson and Beryl Feakins stepping in where necessary. There is healthy competition between the daily teams, with a weekly update on daily visitor figures and a challenge to see which team has the visitor from the 'furthest-flung' home base. The current record holders count a visitor from Christchurch New Zealand, 11,805 miles from Bexhill.

The Museum shop team of Beryl Feakins, Terri Pierce and Chris Waterfield worked hard to source interesting items and to enable the shop, once again, to perform well above targets set by sector experts for a museum of our size and type. Front of House regulars Karen Smith and Peter Booth remain stalwarts on the door, maintenance volunteer Brian Perry soldiers on, Julian Porter, Mari Edwards, Karen Smith maintain our popular social media presence and Jenny Snape keeps an eye on membership matters. There is also a strong team supporting the curator in documenting and caring for the collection led by Mary Bywater, Stella Hales-Morris, Mary Hart, Stuart Pemberton, Peter Rawles and others, including Cathy Pemberton, our natural history expert.

Maureen Newport has stepped back from the running of the St Augustine's Church Hall talks - to be succeeded by Jan Burton, who has programmed a new series of talks to begin (at time of writing) on 5 October 2022. Maureen has however taken over documentation in the costumes collection from Pam Malpass, who is moving to Scotland.

Maureen's late husband John Newport, who did so much to digitise the Museum's paper archives, wrote a book about the histories of soldiers of both World Wars, commemorated by war memorials in Hooe. It was published after his death and can be bought in the Museum shop. The Bexhill Museum Local History Study Group also published a book, editing and design led by Paul Wright and Alexis Markwick. On This Day in Bexhill-on-Sea is a calendar of local history events, packed with fascinating tidbits of information. It too is also available in the Museum shop.

Led by trustee Peggy Goodberry, the fundraising & events volunteer teams began to return to action post Covid. Events included talks online and at St Augustine's, and the return of the popular monthly coffee mornings. Together these raised £2,144 after expenses for the Museum, including £644 raised by the November 2021 Curry Night at the Shiplu Restaurant, supported by fellow trustee Sally Hemmings.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Our much-valued District Curator, Julian Porter, has contributed another year of dedication, knowledge, and never-ending enthusiasm, and will, we are sure, be certain to continue to do so as a full and active contributor to the Management Team's week-by-week operations.

Finally, we acknowledge the informed and generous contributions of chair Natalie Tilbury and vice-Chair Anne Stacey; their fellow trustees; Stella Hales-Morris and Gordon Smith in their roles as Management Team members; and business support officer and Secretary of the Board of Trustees, Rohan Jayasekera.

We also mourn the loss of two long-time supporters of the Museum. Pauline Bullock, chair of the Museum of Costume and Social History at Manor Barn in the Old Town in the run up to its merger with Bexhill Museum, who passed away this year, and Hazel Pratt, a former volunteer at Bexhill Museum. Hazel also left a generous legacy gift in her will for the Museum's work.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

We are pleased to report that the Museum has come out of the Covid-19 years relatively unscathed in financial terms.

The total funds carried forward - the broad 'value' of the charity at the end of the year - has fallen slightly on last year overall, from £222k to £218.5k. But as a business, the Museum has bounced back, with income from admissions, shop, and café in 2021-22 totalling £42 647 - compared to the previous year's Covid afflicted total of a little over £11k. Our figures for 2021-22 were better than predicted - our target figure for the year was £35,600, per our Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Rother District Council, and we surpassed that target by just over £7k.

As reported last year the Museum recorded a cash surplus of nearly £15,000 at the end of 2020-21, thanks to special donations, so we have dipped into that to cover an extra £3,550 worth of spending over income this year. As a result, all the internal investment planned for 2021-22 has been completed - surveys, shop fittings, new display cases, etc. From now on any new capital expenditure will be drawn from restricted income from grants. Project funding - such as that granted to the Insight to Culture project - was down by half this year, to £13.5k, but we hope to improve on this.

However, a look at the underlying data comparing 2021-22 to 2019-20 - essentially before and after Covid - shows that we have a way to go before we are properly out of the lockdown experience. Before Covid the Museum was comfortably over-performing on our visitor and audience targets - Museum visitors including schools, and outreach events. Reopening on May 18 after Covid, we have struggled to meet audience target figures set by our service agreement with Rother District Council. We had set a target of 15,220 visitors for 2021-22, but by the year's end had fallen short of that by 3,789.

In general, comparing pre and post Covid performance, audiences have not yet returned to normal numbers. Only school visits and Tourist Information Point users have returned to pre-Covid levels. Pretty much all categories of visitors are a third down on pre-Covid figures, and some groups - the disabled and member visitors - are down by more than half. Thanks to the shop's continued success, the Museum's business income has increased by 8.4% comparing pre- and post-Covid numbers, as noted earlier. But visitor numbers are essential guides to long-term planning. We can raise all kinds of funds for projects and capital works, but the day-to-day costs of running the Museum must come from business income.

It will cost around £75k to run the Museum day-to-day during 2022-23 - self-funding schools activities and one-off projects aside. Apart from the £8.5k currently granted annually by Rother, this amount must be raised from admissions, shop sales and our fundraising volunteers. We can do this, but we will need more unrestricted income to secure stability and sustainability, and if doesn't come from audiences, it will have to come from new sources of public and private funding. This will come with conditions on how the Museum is operated, specifically that we work to attract a wider and more diverse audience base, and that we address some of the professional museum sector's new methodologies of collection care and management, and its concern that artefacts be better understood and comprehensively contextualised.

The Museum presses on with plans to add an extra education room with a park facing entrance. This will facilitate outdoor park events for children, improve the neglected open space between the boating pond and the Museum, and increase options for partnerships with other organisations, including those working with special needs groups. Parallel works on the rest of the ground floor will tackle the temperature, insect and humidity issues in the basement Museum stores and make them accessible. We plan to draw on second rounds of Arts Council and government DCMS funding, and possibly parts of future S.106 funding earmarked for Bexhill Museum from the Barnhorn Road, Worsham Farm & Pebsham developments, or funds allocated from the County Council's archaeological studies budget attached to the Hastings-Bexhill bypass works. Plans for works to better insulate the Sargent Gallery and replace the Museum's gas boilers with heat source pumps after 2023 are also in hand.

Expenditure

There were two major capital purchases during 2021-22. The first was the purchase of two wall mounted dehumidifiers for the Costume and Sargent stores, the costs of which were covered by a one-off grant from the Pilgrim Trust, with the support of the Association of Independent Museums. The second was the installation of a long-planned secure glass display cabinet made to measure to fit the corridor space between the Sargent and Costume Galleries. The Museum also invested in detailed surveys to support our plans to repair the basement stores. These surveys will in time to come, enable steps towards extending the Museum - a long held ambition of the district curator - and give it a park-facing public entrance and activities space - a proposal inspired by our patron Eddie Izzard.

Reserves policy

At the end of March 2021, the General Unrestricted Fund, which represents the funds available for the day-to-day operation of the Museum had been nearly doubled, to £45,496. This left the Museum in a good place to handle the unknowns of the post-COVID months to come and the expected ancillary costs of preparing renovation work on the lower ground floor stores. However, these costs proved more manageable than feared. At end March 2022, the General Unrestricted Fund had been reduced to £39,243, a moderate fall under the circumstances - and well above the March 2020 figure of just £22,239. Of that £39,243, the rough equivalent of three months' turnover or £23,400 is put aside in a deposit account, to be held 'in the event of an emergency'. The term 'emergency' is simply defined as the enforced closure of the Museum, when the collection would have to be relocated, offered to other museums, or ethically disposed of, and any liabilities such as legal fees or redundancies covered.

The probability of such a scenario is extremely remote. Arguably, holding this level of cash reserves unnecessarily ties up funds that might be more constructively applied to the Museum's charitable & education works. The addition of several saleable high value replicas and collectibles to the education collection has added to the overall reserves' base value, meaning that the amount of reserves held in actual cash could be reduced, and the balance added to general investments in the Museum. One of the early objectives of the newly founded Trustees' Finance & Development Sub-Committee will be to redraft our reserves policy to take these changes into account, for approval by the trustees. An up-to-date reserves policy is also a requirement of the Museum's accreditation review, due in 2022.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Company's governing documents are its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 October 2003 and amended by written resolution dated 10 February 2004 and special resolutions dated 3 October 2012 and 20 October 2021. Copies of these documents are available by request. The company is limited by guarantee.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The power of appointing new or additional Trustees is vested in the Trustees. Prior to appointment, new Trustees would be introduced to the workings of the charity, given a role description and advised of their responsibilities.

Organisational structure

The Management Team is appointed by the Trustees and meet weekly to review activities and manage the museum on a day-to-day basis. The group is made up of the volunteer coordinator, Gordon Smith, the Business Support Officer, Rohan Jayasekera, a representative of the Collections Care team, Stella Hales-Morris, and the Curator Julian Porter.

There is currently only one formal staff employee of the Museum, housekeeper Toni Neville, employed part-time for housekeeping duties. Rother District Curator Julian Porter MA is seconded by Rother District Council as Curator to Bexhill Museum. Rohan Jayasekera MSc MA is contracted by the Museum month-by-month on a part-time freelance basis as Business Support Officer.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed and identified the risks to which the charity is exposed and have ensured that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees have updated the existing Child Protection Policy to take account of changes in practice regarding the Safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04959445 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1102638

Registered office

Bexhill Museum
Egerton Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN39 3HL

Trustees

Dr A G Stacey
Mrs G D Bradley
L Fusco (resigned 8/12/2021)
P A Goodberry
S A Hemmings
G R Smith
N R Tilbury

Patron

Eddie Izzard

Honorary President

Mr D J Betts

Neither the Patron nor Honorary President is an officer of the charity.

Company Secretary

R A Jayasekera

Independent Examiner

Carol E. Barfoot
Chartered Accountant
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

Accountants

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1HE.

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, Devonshire Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1AG.
CCLA Investment Management Ltd, COIF Charity Funds, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET.

CHANGE OF NAME

The charitable company passed a special resolution on 17th November 2021 changing its name from Bexhill Museum Limited to Bexhill Museum.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10th August 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr A G Stacey - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEXHILL MUSEUM

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bexhill Museum ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Carol E. Barfoot
Chartered Accountant
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

6th September 2022

BEXHILL MUSEUM

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	76,284	13,522	89,806	112,489
Charitable activities					
Admission fees		20,768	-	20,768	5,244
Education room and training		4,115	-	4,115	50
Royalties from publications		132	-	132	114
Other trading activities	3	21,879	-	21,879	5,781
Investment income	4	51	-	51	28
Total		123,229	13,522	136,751	123,706
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	15,534	-	15,534	3,113
Charitable activities	6				
Projects		1,876	4,604	6,480	11,607
Museum expenditure		89,047	10,904	99,951	81,522
Finance and administration services		18,336	-	18,336	12,516
Total		124,793	15,508	140,301	108,758
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(1,564)	(1,986)	(3,550)	14,948
Transfers between funds	19	5,106	(5,106)	-	-
Net movement in funds		3,542	(7,092)	(3,550)	14,948
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		165,837	56,220	222,057	207,109
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		169,379	49,128	218,507	222,057

The notes form part of these financial statements

BEXHILL MUSEUM**BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	<i>2021 Total funds £</i>
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	101,070	-	101,070	102,500
Heritage assets	14	23,300	42,321	65,621	39,959
Investments	15	2	-	2	2
		124,372	42,321	166,693	142,461
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	16	4,098	-	4,098	6,540
Debtors	17	7,255	-	7,255	3,185
Cash at bank and in hand		35,719	6,808	42,527	71,913
		47,072	6,808	53,880	81,638
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	18	(2,066)	-	(2,066)	(2,042)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		45,006	6,808	51,814	79,596
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		169,378	49,129	218,507	222,057
NET ASSETS		169,378	49,129	218,507	222,057
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	19			169,378	165,837
Restricted funds				49,129	56,220
TOTAL FUNDS				218,507	222,057

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

BEXHILL MUSEUM

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31ST MARCH 2022

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 10th August 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

A G Stacey - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display cases and shelving	- 5% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% on cost
Interactive displays	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Heritage assets

Acquisitions for the collection since 1st April 2010, whether donated or purchased, are capitalised and recognised in the balance sheet at the cost or value of the acquisition, where such cost or valuation is reasonably obtainable and reliable. Items donated or bequeathed to the Museum's collection are valued by internal valuers if an external valuation for the items is not available. Such items are not depreciated or revalued.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Donations	4,670	<i>12,769</i>
Tax recoverable on gift aid	261	<i>3,107</i>
Legacy	-	<i>6,194</i>
Grants	45,910	<i>86,866</i>
Subscriptions	4,540	<i>2,662</i>
Donations to museum collection	34,425	<i>891</i>
	89,806	<i>112,489</i>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Rother District Council - Service level agreement	8,500	<i>8,500</i>
Rother District Council - Covid-19 Business Support	25,500	<i>33,035</i>
Arts Council: Hastings and Bexhill Museums and Schools Project (via Hastings Council)	6,055	<i>5,198</i>
Association of Independent Museums	5,106	-
South East Creative, Cultural and Digital Sector	279	<i>2,956</i>
HMRC CJRS	470	<i>2,677</i>
East Sussex County Council: Covid-19 Emergency Grant	-	<i>11,500</i>
Arts Council Emergency Response Fund: Lockdown Transition	-	<i>21,500</i>
SE Museums Development Programme: Ready to Reopen(via Brighton and Hove City Council)	-	<i>1,500</i>
	45,910	<i>86,866</i>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Shop and cafe income	15,927	<i>5,640</i>
Fund raising income	4,173	<i>141</i>
Sale of clothing	1,779	-
	21,879	<i>5,781</i>

BEXHILL MUSEUM

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest on cash investments	51	28

5. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Opening stock	6,540	5,256
Purchases	11,982	4,377
Closing stock	(4,098)	(6,540)
Fund raising, publicity and other costs	1,110	20
	15,534	3,113

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 7) £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Projects	6,480	-	6,480
Museum expenditure	97,579	2,372	99,951
Finance and administration services	-	18,336	18,336
	104,059	20,708	124,767

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Conservation	2,204	6,172
Collections, exhibitions and special projects	6,480	5,344
Computer & IT costs	2,728	14,340
Education & lecture costs	2,764	921
Subscriptions and conferences	1,367	125
Repairs and renewals	4,034	2,402
Advertising & promotion (inc newsletter and website)	2,936	1,392
General rates, water rates, gas, electricity & telephone	8,830	9,531
Cleaner's salary and cleaning consumables	5,987	6,878
Insurance	2,519	2,274
Printing, postage and stationery	2,625	1,572
Volunteer expenses	374	398
Payroll processing fees	516	804
Security and fire protection	-	2,574
Sundry expenses	54	52
Travel	245	153
Training	-	1,262
Professional fees	21,883	11,720
Displays, signage etc (inc corridor project)	22,109	4,215
Bank charges	317	319
Card fees	333	302
Depreciation	15,754	15,429
	104,059	88,179

BEXHILL MUSEUM**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022****8. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Museum expenditure	-	2,372	2,372
Finance and administration services	18,336	-	18,336
	18,336	2,372	20,708

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Management

	2022 Finance and administration services £	2021 Total activities £
Sub contract administrative services	18,336	12,516

Governance costs

	2022 Museum expenditure £	2021 Total activities £
Accountancy fees	1,680	1,644
Independent examiner's fees	408	396
Legal fees	284	2,910
	2,372	4,950

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation - owned assets	15,754	15,428

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2022 nor for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2022 nor for the year ended 31st March 2021.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

11. STAFF COSTS

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Wages and salaries	5,460	<i>5,460</i>
Social security costs	0	<i>0</i>
Pensions	0	<i>0</i>
	<u>5,460</u>	<i><u>5,460</u></i>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022	<i>2021</i>
Cleaner	1	<i>1</i>
	<u>1</u>	<i><u>1</u></i>

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	88,598	23,891	112,489
Charitable activities			
Admission fees	5,244	-	5,244
Education room and training	50	-	50
Royalties from publications	114	-	114
Other trading activities	5,781	-	5,781
Investment income	28	-	28
Total	99,815	23,891	123,706
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	3,113	-	3,113
Charitable activities			
Projects	6,094	5,513	11,607
Museum expenditure	64,423	17,099	81,522
Finance and administration services	12,516	-	12,516
Total	86,146	22,612	108,758
NET INCOME	13,669	1,279	14,948
Transfers between funds	9,495	(9,495)	-
Net movement in funds	23,164	(8,216)	14,948
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	142,672	64,437	207,109

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>165,836</u>	<u>56,221</u>	<u>222,057</u>

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display cases and shelving £	Fixtures and fittings £	Interactive displays £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1st April 2021	137,461	96,954	67,717	43,936	346,068
Additions	-	14,324	-	-	14,324
At 31st March 2022	<u>137,461</u>	<u>111,278</u>	<u>67,717</u>	<u>43,936</u>	<u>360,392</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1st April 2021	86,105	52,450	67,717	37,296	243,568
Charge for year	6,872	5,562	-	3,320	15,754
At 31st March 2022	<u>92,977</u>	<u>58,012</u>	<u>67,717</u>	<u>40,616</u>	<u>259,322</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31st March 2022	<u>44,484</u>	<u>53,266</u>	-	<u>3,320</u>	<u>101,070</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>51,356</u>	<u>44,504</u>	-	<u>6,640</u>	<u>102,500</u>

14. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2021	39,959
Additions - donated	25,662
At 31st March 2022	<u>65,621</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2022	<u>65,621</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>39,959</u>

As set out in note 1, the balance shown here only reflects the acquisitions for the collection since 1 April 2010.

BEXHILL MUSEUM**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022****15. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Shares in group undertaking £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2021 and 31st March 2022	<u>2</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2022	<u>2</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>2</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited

Registered office: Bexhill Museum, Egerton Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3HL

Nature of business: Museum retail trading

Class of share:	%		
Ordinary	holding	31/3/22	<i>31/3/21</i>
	100	£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves		<u>2</u>	2
Loss for the year		<u>-</u>	<u>(39)</u>

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Bexhill Museums Trading Limited. Its capital consists of 2 £1 shares both of which have been issued at par.

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited ceased trading on 31 March 2019 and is currently dormant.

16. STOCKS

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	£
Stocks	<u>4,098</u>	<u>6,540</u>

17. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>7,255</u>	<u>3,185</u>

BEXHILL MUSEUM

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Amounts owed to group undertakings	2	<i>2</i>
Other creditors	2,064	<i>2,040</i>
	<u>2,066</u>	<i><u>2,042</u></i>

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/21	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31/3/22
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	45,496	(5,798)	(455)	39,243
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	102,500	(6,991)	5,561	101,070
Collection acquisitions designated fund	-	23,300	-	23,300
Elva repairs designated fund	500	(400)	-	100
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	17,341	(13,284)	-	4,057
Costumes designated fund	-	1,608	-	1,608
	<u>165,837</u>	<u>(1,565)</u>	<u>5,106</u>	<u>169,378</u>
Restricted funds				
Collection acquisitions fund	39,959	2,362	-	42,321
Local research	281	-	-	281
Museum in a box	168	-	-	168
Izzard family train set	3,403	(3,269)	-	134
Piano	654	-	-	654
Museum and schools	-	2,265	-	2,265
InSight to Culture	11,755	(8,449)	-	3,306
Dehumidifiers	-	5,106	(5,106)	-
	<u>56,220</u>	<u>(1,985)</u>	<u>(5,106)</u>	<u>49,129</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>222,057</u>	<u>(3,550)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>218,507</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	89,166	(94,964)	(5,798)
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	8,763	(15,754)	(6,991)
Collection acquisitions designated fund	23,300	-	23,300
Elva repairs designated fund	-	(400)	(400)
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	-	(13,284)	(13,284)
Costumes designated fund	2,000	(392)	1,608
	123,229	(124,794)	(1,565)
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	2,362	-	2,362
Izzard family train set	-	(3,269)	(3,269)
Museum and schools	6,055	(3,790)	2,265
InSight to Culture	(1)	(8,448)	(8,449)
Dehumidifiers	5,106	-	5,106
	13,522	(15,507)	(1,985)
TOTAL FUNDS	136,751	(140,301)	(3,550)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	22,239	35,763	(12,506)	45,496
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	95,928	(15,429)	22,001	102,500
Elva repairs designated fund	500	-	-	500
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	24,005	(6,664)	-	17,341
	142,672	13,670	9,495	165,837
Restricted funds				
Collection acquisitions fund	39,068	891	-	39,959
Local research	281	-	-	281
Museum in a box	168	-	-	168
Izzard family train set	9,467	(5,436)	(628)	3,403
Piano	654	-	-	654
Level-Up	2,740	(2,740)	-	-
InSight to Culture	12,059	(304)	-	11,755
Lockdown Transistion	-	8,867	(8,867)	-
	64,437	1,278	(9,495)	56,220
TOTAL FUNDS	207,109	14,948	-	222,057

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	99,816	(64,053)	35,763
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	-	(15,429)	(15,429)
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	(1)	(6,663)	(6,664)
	<u>99,815</u>	<u>(86,145)</u>	<u>13,670</u>
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	891	-	891
Izzard family train set	-	(5,436)	(5,436)
Level-Up	-	(2,740)	(2,740)
InSight to Culture	-	(304)	(304)
Lockdown Transistion	23,000	(14,133)	8,867
	<u>23,891</u>	<u>(22,613)</u>	<u>1,278</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>123,706</u></u>	<u><u>(108,758)</u></u>	<u><u>14,948</u></u>

Designated funds

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the value of the fixed assets held by the charity.

The Collection acquisitions designated fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010, for items which the trustees have the power to dispose of at their discretion. During the year over 50 items were donated to the museum.

The Elva repairs fund is money designated for repairs to the Elva car.

Bexhill's lost world development project fund is monies designated from the receipt of a legacy in 2016 towards an extension to the museum.

The Costumes fund is made up of a donation of £2,000 which was designated towards the costs relating to the costumes held by the museum.

Restricted funds

The Collection acquisitions restricted fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010. During the year over 100 items were donated to the museum.

The Local research fund represents donations towards local research costs.

The Museum in a box fund is the balance of funds received for the museum in a box project.

The Izzard family train set fund is monies received towards the upkeep, improvement and changes to the layout of the model train set display.

The piano fund is made up of donations for the ongoing costs of maintaining the piano.

The InSight to Culture fund is a grant from the Arts Council for that project.

A grant was received towards the costs of the purchase of dehumidifiers which was fully expended in the year.

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Transfers between funds

Assets were purchased using restricted funds so transfers were made from the relevant restricted fund to the Tangible fixed assets designated fund as the assets themselves have no restrictions. In addition assets have been purchased using unrestricted funds so a transfer was made from the General fund to the Tangible fixed assets designated fund for the cost of these assets.

20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st March 2022.

21. LIMITED LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of the same being wound up while he/she is still a member or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of rights of the contributories amongst themselves such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

Bexhill Museum

England & Wales - Charity number 1102638

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04959445 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1102638

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
FOR
BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

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BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The stated objectives of the charity are to provide a museum in order to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public for their benefit, particularly by the presentation of exhibitions, lectures and other means of study relating to the display of local history, archaeology, history of costume, technology and engineering, the arts, ethnography, geology and social history.

Public benefit

The Trustees have confirmed that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in their opinion the foregoing report on the achievements and performance demonstrates that they have complied therewith.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The onset of lockdown on March 19 2020 heralded an extremely difficult financial year for the Museum, during which most of its normal charitable activities were severely curtailed. Income from admissions, hires and shop & café dropped from £43,019 in 2019/20 to a quarter of that in 2020/21.

The popular schedule of coffee mornings, walks & talks that raised more than £5,450 for the Museum in 2019/20 had to be abandoned completely during the year. Though core funding from the Arts Council's Museums & Schools project continued to come in, income from school visits halted. New emergency funds had to be sought.

East Sussex County Council was the first to step up, replying to a request for £11,500 to cover projected loss of earned ticket sales to September 2020. Initially Rother was unable to help, citing rules that limited government emergency funds to businesses in properties with a rateable value of £51k or less - the museum's RV is twice that, but we are exempted from business rates. This latter detail also ruled us out from support as ordinary ratepayers.

A short but intensive letter-writing & lobbying campaign followed, supported by Hastings Museum and directed at the Department of Culture, Media & Sport, and the Museum was released from its Catch-22 plight by a change in government rules in September 2020. Rother was in turn able to start releasing emergency government support funds to us, which eventually totalled £33,035.43 in 2020/21. Rother also maintained its annual £8,500 grant funding even though the museum was closed to the public during most of the year.

The need for support was very real. Though the museum was allowed to open for a few summer months and for a time before Christmas 2020, the effect on our doorstep income was graphic - from £26,508 in 2019/20 down to just £5,244 in 2020/21. Building electrification, heating and dehumidification, security and collection care have to continue and be paid for, even in the absence of visitors.

A special thanks goes out to all the members who renewed their memberships in 2020/21, even though it was largely impossible to put their membership cards to use during that year. Thanks also to membership secretary Jenny Snape for supporting the digitalisation of the membership system.

The National Lottery and the Arts Council also moved quickly to open up funding to cultural organisations that needed assistance, especially those that wanted to use the closure time to improve and upgrade their facilities. On that basis we applied for and secured a grant for £21,500 towards completing the extensive IT and digital infrastructure of the museum and renovating the rooms in which the new technology sat, such as the 'Comms Room' behind the front desk, and the Museum's long-underused Library.

But most of the funds were spent on renovating the Education Room, relocating the screen, adding a new projector, microphones & sound system, repairing the blinds, redecorating in part, fitting a screen to cover the kitchen space, adding new kitchen units and a relocated dishwasher, and buying 40 new stackable chairs and six large foldable tables that could be stored on trolleys. We have also hung a digitally reconstructed copy of the 1950's era borough street map once posted outside Bexhill Station on the wall. This will make the room more practical for different uses and make the room more attractive to external hires.

Finally, as the last of the funds operating in the UK financed by the European Union closed down, one such fund, SECCADS, granted the Museum an extra £3,000 in November 2020 to add to our digital development fund. These funds also supported a major redesign of the Museum website, and a new digital 'home' for the Access Centre database & files.

Some charitable activities were possible. The museum opened for a few short summer months and briefly again before Christmas with better than expected results, though access through the building was carefully regulated by the Visitor Services team of volunteers led by Gordon Smith. Anne Stacey, Anne Lucarotti and the Education Team of volunteers reorganised the school loan box system, and adding new beautifully designed items to new boxes, to help schools unable to send their pupils to visit the museum. Intended in part as a crisis response, the quality and range of the loan boxes has been highly praised, and will remain on offer to schools after the current restrictions come to an end.

The crisis encouraged a close look at our financial performance. The new-look shop & café maintained its performance during the few months that the museum was open under the direction of Beryl Feakins, Terri Peirce & Chris Waterfield. Given a target of earning an average of between one and two pounds per visitor - the Association of Independent Museum's recommended figure - the volunteers stocking and staffing the shop scored an impressive average of £1.73. More troublingly it became clear that the museum was using and paying for far too much gas for its heating needs - an estimated 27% more than would be expected of a building of similar size, use, design & age. Historic problems with the 2009 heating system as managed by Rother DC appear to be the issue, which will be taken up in 2021/22.

General maintenance of the building continued, with action taken to put right several issues raised by an independent fire risk analysis in February 2020. At time of report all but two issues had been resolved - repairing smoke seals on pipes and doors, and a question regarding the fire & heat resistant qualities of the glass curtain wall in the main entrance. These too will be attended to by contractors appointed by Rother in 2021-22. Rother contractors also resolved a long-standing problem with the front doors, installing detectors to prevent the automatic doors closing on people standing on the threshold, and fitting crash bars to the downstairs emergency exit. The museum itself will also take on a programme of improvements to the building's accessibility for disabled visitors in 2021/22.

The Museum began taking steps to find a solution for the lasting structural problems in the lower ground floor stores ('The Bays'). An environmental survey in 2019 had found the space to be susceptible to extreme fluctuations in relative humidity and temperature levels, which put the artefacts in store there at possible risk. The loose-fitting park side wooden doors were draughty and insecure, and years of sea wind and spray building up against broken skylight windows left boarded up with plywood in 2009 had resulted in serious damage to the south side walls and ceiling, putting the stability of the library floor above in doubt. The Museum itself sits in a Level Three flood risk area, the highest level described by the government's Environment Agency, and though the nature of the flood risk has changed significantly, the ongoing increases in climate change induced extreme weather events continue to pose a threat. Building resilience against, and mitigating the effects of climate change will require substantial investment and time in 2021-22.

Finally, the Trustees concluded the process of reviewing its charitable statutes, assisted by a specialist lawyer, Helen Harvie, and building on the recommendations of external expert Sam Hunt. The result was a new draft articles & memorandum of association, designed mainly to take account of changes in Charity Law since the originals were drafted in 2003 and last amended in 2012. The new draft was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees in April 2021, along with a proposal to make a minor name change to its legal identity - from 'Bexhill Museum Limited' to plain 'Bexhill Museum', which was thought to better reflect the Museum's identity as a not-for-profit charitable body. At time of writing both sets of changes were to be presented to the 2021 AGM on October 6 for approval by the membership.

During the year Chair Natalie Tilbury led on an ongoing conversation between stakeholders and external experts regarding the new Trustees Action Plan. The Plan, adopted by the Trustees in April 2021, will provide a framework and strategic guidance for the redrafting of the 2020-25 Bexhill Museum Business Plan for 2021-2026. The Trustees will refer to both documents when measuring and assessing progress in the adoption of the objectives of the Business Plan and request changes, where thought appropriate.

Our much-valued District Curator, Julian Porter, has contributed another year of dedication, knowledge and never-ending enthusiasm, and will, we are sure, be certain to continue to do so as a full and active contributor to the Management Team's week-by-week operations.

Finally, we acknowledge the informed and generous contributions of chair Natalie Tilbury and vice-Chair Anne Stacey; their fellow trustees; Stella Hales-Morris and Gordon Smith in their roles as Management Team members; and business support officer & Secretary of the Board of Trustees, Rohan Jayasekera.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Income

As outlined above, there was an intense focus on emergency funding to fill the gaps in income caused by the COVID crisis enforced closures. In this the Museum was happily successful. Total incomes from private and institutional donations and legacies were more than doubled during the year, from £53,967 in 2020 to £112,492 in 2021, 79.4% of which came in as unrestricted core funding. Cash at bank and in hand at year end 2021 came to £71,913, an increase of £11,378 on 2020's total.

The most significant private contribution to this achievement and the Museum's stability came in the form of a single anonymous donation of £12,000 to the Museum reserves at the start of 2020/21 in response to the imposed closure of the Museum on March 19. We also have to thank and remember two member-volunteers who left generous legacy gifts to the museum in their wills, the much-missed David Hughes and Betty Butler.

Expenditure

The programme of significant infrastructural capital investment begun during 2019/20 continued during 2020/21 despite closure. As outlined above this included a great deal of internal redecoration and re-equipping of the Education Room, Library & Comms Room, including a new server with expanded memory capacity to accommodate the Museum's large digitised archives, new audio-visual equipment, and new laptops for the volunteers' use, at an overall cost of more than £14,000. At the same time investments in collection care, conservation & documentation were nearly doubled. Additionally, the Museum invested in substantial survey work to assess the structural condition of the lower ground floor stores, work that will continue into 2021/22 as repair & renovation plans take shape.

Reserves policy

In March 2020 the General Unrestricted Fund, which represents the reserves available for the day-to-day operation of the museum had fallen by £17,283 on the preceding year's total to an end of year total of £22,239. This was largely the result of drawing down reserves to cover expenditure on the first year of a programme of investment in new equipment.

Yet despite the completion of the equipment investment programme, by March 2021 the General Unrestricted Fund had been restored, and then nearly doubled, to £45,496. This left the Museum in a good place to handle the unknowns of the post-COVID months to come and the expected ancillary costs of beginning renovation work on the lower ground floor stores. Overall funds carried forward into the next financial year beginning April 2021 totalled £222,057, an increase of £14,948 on the preceding year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Company's governing documents are its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 October 2003 and amended by written resolution dated 10 February 2004 and special resolutions dated 3 October 2012. Copies of these documents are available by request. The company is limited by guarantee.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The power of appointing new or additional Trustees is vested in the Trustees. Prior to appointment, new Trustees would be introduced to the workings of the charity, given a role description and advised of their responsibilities.

Organisational structure

The Management Team is appointed by the Trustees and meet weekly to review activities and manage the museum on a day-to-day basis. The group is made up of the volunteer coordinator, Gordon Smith, the Business Support Officer, Rohan Jayasekera, a representative of the Collections Care team, Stella Hales-Morris, and the Curator Julian Porter.

There is currently only one formal staff employee of the Museum, housekeeper Toni Neville, employed part-time for housekeeping duties. Rother District Curator Julian Porter MA is seconded by Rother District Council as Curator to Bexhill Museum. Rohan Jayasekera MSc MA is contracted by the Museum month-by-month on a part-time freelance basis as Business Support Officer.

BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed and identified the risks to which the charity is exposed and have ensured that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees have updated the existing Child Protection Policy to take account of changes in practice regarding the Safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

04959445 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1102638

Registered office

Bexhill Museum
Egerton Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN39 3HL

Trustees

Dr A G Stacey
J E S Crone (resigned 9/12/2020)
Mrs G D Bradley
L Fusco
P A Goodberry
S A Hemmings
G R Smith
N R Tilbury

Patron

Eddie Izzard

Honorary President

Mr D J Betts

Neither the Patron nor Honorary President is an officer of the charity.

Company Secretary

R A Jayasekera

Independent Examiner

Carol E. Barfoot
Chartered Accountant
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

Accountants

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1HE.

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc, Devonshire Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN40 1AG.

CCLA Investment Management Ltd, COIF Charity Funds, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET.

BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 11th August 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

N R Tilbury - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bexhill Museum Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Carol E. Barfoot
Chartered Accountant
Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
20 Eversley Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HE

8th September 2021

BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	88,601	23,891	112,492	53,967
Charitable activities					
Admission fees		5,244	-	5,244	26,508
Education room and training		50	-	50	2,510
Royalties from publications		114	-	114	-
Other activities		-	-	-	59
Other trading activities	3	5,781	-	5,781	13,653
Investment income	4	28	-	28	289
Total		99,818	23,891	123,709	96,986
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	3,116	-	3,116	6,117
Charitable activities	6				
Projects		6,094	5,513	11,607	19,289
Museum expenditure		64,423	17,099	81,522	72,493
Finance and administration services		12,516	-	12,516	14,052
Total		86,149	22,612	108,761	111,951
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		13,669	1,279	14,948	(14,965)
Transfers between funds	19	9,495	(9,495)	-	-
Net movement in funds		23,164	(8,216)	14,948	(14,965)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		142,672	64,437	207,109	222,074
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		165,836	56,221	222,057	207,109

The notes form part of these financial statements

BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED**BALANCE SHEET
31ST MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	<i>2020 Total funds £</i>
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	102,500	-	102,500	95,928
Heritage assets	14	-	39,959	39,959	39,068
Investments	15	2	-	2	2
		102,502	39,959	142,461	134,998
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	16	6,540	-	6,540	5,256
Debtors	17	3,185	-	3,185	9,373
Cash at bank and in hand		55,652	16,261	71,913	60,535
		65,377	16,261	81,638	75,164
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	18	(2,042)	-	(2,042)	(3,053)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		63,335	16,261	79,596	72,111
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		165,837	56,220	222,057	207,109
NET ASSETS		165,837	56,220	222,057	207,109
FUNDS	19				
Unrestricted funds				165,837	142,672
Restricted funds				56,220	64,437
TOTAL FUNDS				222,057	207,109

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31ST MARCH 2021

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 11th August 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

N R Tilbury - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display cases and shelving	- 5% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% on cost
Interactive displays	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

Heritage assets

Acquisitions for the collection since 1st April 2010, whether donated or purchased, are capitalised and recognised in the balance sheet at the cost or value of the acquisition, where such cost or valuation is reasonably obtainable and reliable. Items donated or bequeathed to the Museum's collection are valued by internal valuers if an external valuation for the items is not available. Such items are not depreciated or revalued.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations	12,772	14,114
Tax recoverable on gift aid	3,107	2,794
Legacy	6,194	-
Grants	86,866	29,599
Subscriptions	2,662	6,509
Donations to museum collection	891	951
	112,492	53,967

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Rother District Council - Service level agreement	8,500	8,500
Rother District Council - Covid-19 Business Support	33,035	-
Arts Council: Hastings and Bexhill Museums and Schools Project (via Hastings Council)	5,198	3,599
Arts Council: Insight to Culture 2019-21	-	13,500
SE Museums Development Programme: Level-Up Fund (via Brighton and Hove City Council)	-	4,000
East Sussex County Council: Covid-19 Emergency Grant	11,500	-
Arts Council Emergency Response Fund: Lockdown Transition	21,500	-
SE Museums Development Programme: Ready to Reopen(via Brighton and Hove City Council)	1,500	-
South East Creative, Cultural and Digital Sector	2,956	-
HMRC CJRS	2,677	-
	86,866	29,599

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Shop and cafe income	5,640	8,202
Fund raising income	141	4,694
Walks and talks	-	757
	5,781	13,653

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest on cash investments	<u>28</u>	<u>289</u>

5. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Opening stock	5,256	1,238
Purchases	4,377	7,589
Closing stock	(6,540)	(5,256)
Fund raising, publicity and other costs	23	2,546
	<u>3,116</u>	<u>6,117</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 7)	Support costs (see note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£
Projects	11,607	-	11,607
Museum expenditure	76,572	4,950	81,522
Finance and administration services	-	12,516	12,516
	<u>88,179</u>	<u>17,466</u>	<u>105,645</u>

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Conservation	6,172	3,270
Collections, exhibitions and special projects	5,344	12,719
Computer & IT costs	14,340	-
Education & lecture costs	921	2,549
Subscriptions	125	-
Repairs and renewals	2,402	2,653
Advertising & promotion (inc newsletter and website)	1,392	8,986
General rates, water rates, gas, electricity & telephone	9,531	14,666
Cleaner's salary and cleaning consumables	6,878	6,533
Insurance	2,274	2,155
Printing, postage and stationery	1,572	1,204
Volunteer expenses	398	519
Payroll processing fees	804	594
Security and fire protection	2,574	10,535
Sundry expenses	52	520
Travel	153	539
Training	1,262	1,089
Professional fees	11,720	-
Displays, signage etc	4,215	7,897
Bank charges	319	699
Credit card charges	302	729
Depreciation	15,429	11,466
	<u>88,179</u>	<u>89,322</u>

BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021****8. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Museum expenditure	-	4,950	4,950
Finance and administration services	12,516	-	12,516
	<u>12,516</u>	<u>4,950</u>	<u>17,466</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Management

	2021	<i>2020</i>
	Finance and administration services £	Total activities £
Sub contract administrative services	12,516	14,052

Governance costs

	2021	<i>2020</i>
	Museum expenditure £	Total activities £
Accountancy fees	1,644	2,076
Independent examiner's fees	396	384
Legal fees	2,910	-
	<u>4,950</u>	<u>2,460</u>

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	<i>2020</i>
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	15,428	11,466

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2021 nor for the year ended 31st March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2021 nor for the year ended 31st March 2020.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

11. STAFF COSTS

	2021	<i>2020</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Wages and salaries	5,460	<i>5,460</i>
Social security costs	0	<i>0</i>
Pensions	0	<i>0</i>
	5,460	<i>5,460</i>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021	<i>2020</i>
Cleaner	1	<i>1</i>
	1	<i>1</i>

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	25,961	28,006	53,967
Charitable activities			
Admission fees	26,508	-	26,508
Education room and training	2,510	-	2,510
Other activities	59	-	59
Other trading activities	13,653	-	13,653
Investment income	289	-	289
Total	68,980	28,006	96,986
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	6,117	-	6,117
Charitable activities			
Projects	5,067	14,222	19,289
Museum expenditure	72,493	-	72,493
Finance and administration services	14,052	-	14,052
Total	97,729	14,222	111,951
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(28,749)	13,784	(14,965)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	171,421	50,653	222,074
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	142,672	64,437	207,109

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display cases and shelving £	Fixtures and fittings £	Interactive displays £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1st April 2020	137,461	84,917	67,717	33,973	324,068
Additions	-	12,037	-	9,963	22,000
At 31st March 2021	137,461	96,954	67,717	43,936	346,068
DEPRECIATION					
At 1st April 2020	79,233	47,567	67,717	33,623	228,140
Charge for year	6,872	4,883	-	3,673	15,428
At 31st March 2021	86,105	52,450	67,717	37,296	243,568
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31st March 2021	51,356	44,504	-	6,640	102,500
At 31st March 2020	<u>58,228</u>	<u>37,350</u>	-	<u>350</u>	<u>95,928</u>

14. HERITAGE ASSETS

	Total £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2020	39,068
Additions - donated	891
At 31st March 2021	39,959
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2021	39,959
At 31st March 2020	<u>39,068</u>

As set out in note 1, the balance shown here only reflects the acquisitions for the collection since 1 April 2010.

15. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakin £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st April 2020 and 31st March 2021	2
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st March 2021	2
At 31st March 2020	<u>2</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

BEXHILL MUSEUM LIMITED**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021****15. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued****Bexhill Museum Trading Limited**

Registered office: Bexhill Museum, Egerton Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN39 3HL

Nature of business: Museum retail trading

Class of share:	%		
Ordinary	holding		
	100		
		31/3/21	<i>31/3/20</i>
		£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves		2	41
Loss for the year		(39)	(495)
		<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

The Society owns 100% of the issued share capital of Bexhill Museums Trading Limited. Its capital consists of 2 £1 shares both of which have been issued at par.

Bexhill Museum Trading Limited ceased trading on 31 March 2019.

16. STOCKS

	2021	<i>2020</i>
	£	£
Stocks	6,540	5,256
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

17. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	<i>2020</i>
	£	£
Grant receivable	-	3,607
Other debtors	3,185	5,766
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>
	3,185	9,373
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	<i>2020</i>
	£	£
Amounts owed to group undertakings	2	-
Other creditors	2,040	3,053
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>
	2,042	3,053
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	22,239	35,763	(12,506)	45,496
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	95,928	(15,429)	22,001	102,500
Elva repairs designated fund	500	-	-	500
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	24,005	(6,664)	-	17,341
	<u>142,672</u>	<u>13,670</u>	<u>9,495</u>	<u>165,837</u>
Restricted funds				
Collection acquisitions fund	39,068	891	-	39,959
Local research	281	-	-	281
Museum in a box	168	-	-	168
Izzard family train set	9,467	(5,436)	(628)	3,403
Piano	654	-	-	654
Level-Up	2,740	(2,740)	-	-
InSight to Culture	12,059	(304)	-	11,755
Lockdown Transistion	-	8,867	(8,867)	-
	<u>64,437</u>	<u>1,278</u>	<u>(9,495)</u>	<u>56,220</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>207,109</u>	<u>14,948</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>222,057</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	99,818	(64,055)	35,763
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	-	(15,429)	(15,429)
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	-	(6,664)	(6,664)
	<u>99,818</u>	<u>(86,148)</u>	<u>13,670</u>
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	891	-	891
Izzard family train set	-	(5,436)	(5,436)
Level-Up	-	(2,740)	(2,740)
InSight to Culture	-	(304)	(304)
Lockdown Transistion	23,000	(14,133)	8,867
	<u>23,891</u>	<u>(22,613)</u>	<u>1,278</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>123,709</u>	<u>(108,761)</u>	<u>14,948</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/4/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	39,522	(17,283)	22,239
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	107,394	(11,466)	95,928
Elva repairs designated fund	500	-	500
Bexhills lost world development project designated fund	24,005	-	24,005
	<u>171,421</u>	<u>(28,749)</u>	<u>142,672</u>
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	38,117	951	39,068
Local research	281	-	281
Conservation	1,580	(1,580)	-
Museum in a box	168	-	168
Izzard family train set	6,553	2,914	9,467
Piano	654	-	654
Museum and schools	3,300	(3,300)	-
Level-Up	-	2,740	2,740
InSight to Culture	-	12,059	12,059
	<u>50,653</u>	<u>13,784</u>	<u>64,437</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>222,074</u></u>	<u><u>(14,965)</u></u>	<u><u>207,109</u></u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	68,980	(86,263)	(17,283)
Tangible fixed assets designated fund	-	(11,466)	(11,466)
	<u>68,980</u>	<u>(97,729)</u>	<u>(28,749)</u>
Restricted funds			
Collection acquisitions fund	951	-	951
Conservation	-	(1,580)	(1,580)
Izzard family train set	9,555	(6,641)	2,914
Museum and schools	-	(3,300)	(3,300)
Level-Up	4,000	(1,260)	2,740
InSight to Culture	13,500	(1,441)	12,059
	<u>28,006</u>	<u>(14,222)</u>	<u>13,784</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>96,986</u></u>	<u><u>(111,951)</u></u>	<u><u>(14,965)</u></u>

Designated funds

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the value of the fixed assets held by the charity.

The Elva repairs fund is money designated for repairs to the Elva car.

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Bexhill's lost world development project fund is monies designated from the receipt of a legacy in 2016 towards an extension to the museum.

Restricted funds

The Collection acquisitions restricted fund represents the estimated cost of items donated to the museum and the actual cost of items purchased by the museum, since 2010. During the year over 100 items were donated to the museum.

The Local research fund represents donations towards local research costs.

The Conservation fund represents donations towards the conservation of exhibits.

The Museum in a box fund is the balance of funds received for the museum in a box project.

The Izzard family train set fund is monies received towards the upkeep, improvement and changes to the layout of the model train set display.

The Museum & Schools fund is the balance of a grant from The Arts Council for that project.

The piano fund is made up of donations for the ongoing costs of maintaining the piano.

The InSight to Culture fund is a grant from the Arts Council for that project.

The Level-up fund is a development grant received via Brighton and Hove City Council towards a Road Map for Successful Forward Planning project.

The Lockdown Transition fund is emergency grants from the Arts Council and SE Museums Development Programme to assist for the purpose of assisting the Museum to re-open post Covid-19 lockdown.

Transfers between funds

Assets were purchased using restricted funds so transfers were made from the relevant restricted fund to the Tangible fixed assets designated fund as the assets themselves have no restrictions. In addition assets have been purchased using unrestricted funds so a transfer was made from the General fund to the Tangible fixed assets designated fund for the cost of these assets.

20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st March 2021.

21. LIMITED LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of the same being wound up while he/she is still a member or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of rights of the contributories amongst themselves such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.